

Medbox, Inc. Weighs-in on FDA Evaluation of Prescription Medicine Dispensing Systems

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HOLLYWOOD, Calif., July 6, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- Medbox, Inc. (Pinksheets: MDBX) (www.medboxinc.com [1]) recently offered some comments about the ongoing debate over how to implement self-service medication dispensing systems within pharmacies, and how to best maintain quality control, safety and security.

The FDA held a two-day hearing in March, where it heard from a variety of stakeholders on the public health implications of self-service prescription medicine dispensing. The purpose of the hearing was to evaluate the best ways to implement a prescription drug kiosk program "under conditions of safe use intended to ensure appropriate use by consumers, and (examine) the potential benefits and costs of this type of approach," according to Yolanda A. Fultz-Morris of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

"Medication-dispensing kiosks could be the next step in the hybrid of health care and self-service," according to a recent article on SelfServiceWorld.com. Patients already use kiosks to test their blood pressure, check-in for a doctor's appointment, and learn about health problems. Now, prescription medicine dispensing systems "are the next step in user-friendly health care," the article stated.

However, in contrast to many kiosk manufacturers that are trying to enter this emerging industry, Medbox differs greatly in their approach. The Medbox Rx system does not allow patients to self-diagnose, nor does it take the pharmacist out of the process, which are two of the biggest hurdles now facing the FDA's implementation of similar technology.

The Medbox Rx is a unique system that allows pharmacists to load a customer's medicine into a secure lockbox for later retrieval. The customer can pick up their medicine at their convenience through the self-service system by swiping their authorization card and placing their index finger on a scanner. Once the patient

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