

Appendix

Here follow the texts of the anti-substitution pamphlet, and the radio and TV spots, along with actual reproductions of the full-page newspaper advertisements, that were used so successfully in Oklahoma. Newspaper mats, video and audio tapes, and the rights to the pamphlet, are available to any county medical society wishing to sponsor a similar campaign, free of charge. Write to the Congress of County Medical Societies, Inc., 3037 N.W. 63rd St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73116.



Why Prescription Drug Substitution is Bad Medicine for Oklahoma

by

Francis A. Davis, MD, and
Gordon Richards, Jr., RPh
Shawnee, Oklahoma

You may never have heard of Oklahoma's anti-substitution law, yet it's one of the most important pieces of consumer-protection legislation ever put on the books. Why? Because it helps protect your health — and the health of every patient in Oklahoma. There's nothing more important than that.

But the Oklahoma anti-substitution law, and similar laws in most other states, are under attack. Right now, legislation is pending in the State House of Representatives to repeal this extraordinarily valuable law.

What The Law Says

Briefly, the law says that a pharmacist must fill the prescription your doctor writes for you *exactly as written*. Proposed legislation would encourage the pharmacist to substitute a different drug for the one your doctor prescribes, *without his prior knowledge or consent*.

Anti-substitution laws were first passed in the 1950s to curb substitution abuses. Pharmacists, doctors, and legislators recognized that prescription drug substitution was unethical and definitely not in the best interests of patients or professionals.

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