

What You Should Know About Purchasing Pseudoephedrine Products¹

Effective October 1, 2005, all but a few of the cold and allergy products containing pseudoephedrine (e.g., Sudafed®) that you have been able to buy over-the-counter at many stores in the past will be available only from pharmacies. Wisconsin's new law makes pseudoephedrine a controlled substance, which means it has a high potential for abuse in making the illegal drug methamphetamine ("meth"). The main purpose of the law is to greatly reduce the number of hazardous meth labs in Wisconsin.

Which Products Will the New Law Affect?

All products containing pseudoephedrine, except pseudoephedrine liquid and liquid-filled gel caps, will now be kept behind the pharmacy counter. The liquid and liquid-filled gel caps can still be purchased over-the-counter because they are not commonly used to make methamphetamine.

How Do I Buy Pseudoephedrine Products Now?

You can still purchase products containing pseudoephedrine. However, you will have to ask for it at the pharmacy counter. You also need to . . .

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Present a photo ID
- Provide your name and address for entry into a logbook
- Provide your signature for the logbook
- Limit your total purchase to no more than 7.5 grams of pseudoephedrine (250 tablets of the 30mg strength product), at one time or in total, during a 30-day period.
- Present a prescription **only if** you require more than the maximum 30-day limit for medical use.

Can I Still Buy Pseudoephedrine From My Local Convenience or Grocery Store?

Yes. You will still be allowed to purchase pseudoephedrine in liquid and liquid-filled gel caps from these places as an over the counter product. However, you will need to visit a pharmacy for other types of pseudoephedrine-containing products.

¹*Pseudoephedrine Products* contain pseudoephedrine, or ephedrine, or other chemically-related family members of pseudoephedrine

