

WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE PDMP DATA?

Only dispensers, practitioners, and their delegates are able to create accounts and access the data directly. Other users may obtain data indirectly by submitting requests for information and providing proof that the information is for a legally authorized purpose.

HOW DO I ACCESS MY PATIENTS' PRESCRIPTION HISTORIES?

You will need to create an account on the PDMP database access site in order to access your patients' prescription histories.

CAN I VIEW MY OWN PRESCRIBING HISTORY?

Yes. Upon logging into the PDMP data access site, you can select to do a prescriber query to view your own prescribing history, or you can perform a recipient query to check a patient's prescription history.

HOW SHOULD I USE PDMP DATA?

The PDMP provides data to healthcare professionals to enable them make more informed decisions about prescribing and dispensing monitored prescription drugs to their patients or potential patients. Healthcare professionals are encouraged to use the data obtained from the PDMP to improve their treatment of patients, including referring patients to substance abuse treatment, if they choose to do so.



WISCONSIN PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

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¹The Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a privacy rule that protects the privacy of individuals' health information.



WI PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

AN INTRODUCTION FOR PRACTITIONERS



WHAT IS THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM (PDMP)?

The PDMP is a secure database that stores information about monitored prescription drugs dispensed to patients in Wisconsin. It empowers healthcare professionals by enabling them to review their patients' prescription histories before prescribing or dispensing drugs. Use of PDMP information can improve patient care and safety by preventing the abuse and misuse of prescription drugs while ensuring patients receive the medical care they need.

WHY IS THE PDMP IMPORTANT?

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in America. The development and use of PDMPs is an important part of the solution to the national prescription drug abuse epidemic.

DO OTHER STATES HAVE PDMPs?

Yes. Wisconsin is one of forty-nine states that either have an operational program or are in the process of creating one. All four of our border states have operational programs.

WHAT INFORMATION DOES THE PDMP CONTAIN?

The PDMP contains specific information about the dispenser, the patient, the prescriber, and the drug.

WHAT IS A MONITORED PRESCRIPTION DRUG?

Monitored prescription drugs are state and federally controlled substances in schedules II, III, IV or V that require a prescription order to be lawfully dispensed, and Tramadol, a drug identified by the Pharmacy Examining Board as having a substantial potential for abuse. In the future, other drugs that the Pharmacy Examining Board identifies as having a substantial potential for abuse may be added through rule-making.

WHO SUBMITS PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION TO THE PDMP?

"Dispensers" submit information to the PDMP. Dispensers are defined as all pharmacies and health care practitioners that dispense monitored prescription drugs to patients.

AS A PRESCRIBER OF MONITORED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AM I REQUIRED TO SUBMIT DATA TO THE PDMP?

It is the dispensing and not the prescribing or administering of monitored prescription drugs that triggers the data collection and submission requirements of the law. Practitioners who only prescribe or administer monitored prescription drugs to patients are not "dispensers" and do not have to collect or report any data to the PDMP.

DOES SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO THE PDMP VIOLATE HIPAA?

No. HIPAA¹ regulations state that health care providers may disclose protected health information without patient consent if the disclosure is mandated by statute or regulation. Therefore, dispensers do not violate HIPAA by submitting prescription information to the PDMP as required by law.

AM I REQUIRED TO NOTIFY PATIENTS ABOUT TRANSACTIONS THAT ARE SUBMITTED TO THE PDMP?

No. The law contains no requirement to notify the patient that data is submitted to the PDMP.

IS THE INFORMATION SECURE AND CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. The PDMP database is secure, and information collected by the PDMP is protected health information under the HIPAA "Privacy Rule" and confidential under state law. Information is only disclosed to healthcare professionals and other authorized individuals who provide evidence that they are legally authorized to obtain the information. Further, the information is explicitly not subject to state open records laws.

CAN I DISCUSS PDMP DATA WITH MY PATIENTS?

Yes. However, note that PDMP reports contain DEA numbers and other potentially sensitive information. The Board cautions against giving printed reports to patients. Patients wishing to obtain a copy of their report must appear in person at the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services.