

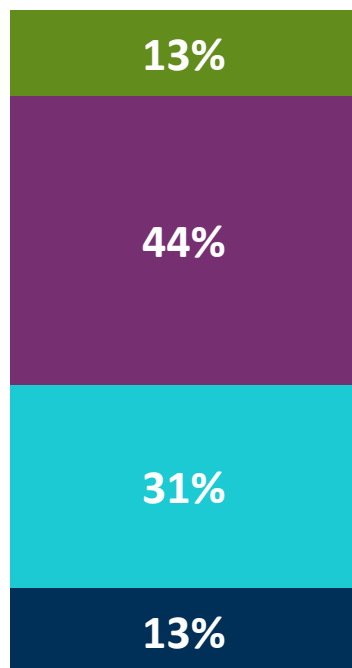
PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

The **2023 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Awareness Feedback survey** was distributed to users in Alaska to gauge their experience with the PDMP. This fact sheet shows the results of this survey for the **39** Pharmacists who dispense controlled substances. Over half of pharmacists have used the PDMP for at least 5-6 years.



Please see main report for details.

How helpful is your licensing board regarding PDMP registration?



- Not so helpful
- Somewhat helpful
- Very helpful
- Extremely helpful

88% of pharmacists who have contacted their board found their board at least somewhat helpful, while 44% have NOT attempted to contact their board

Note: Percents do not include respondents who said they had not contacted their board or were not under any boards.

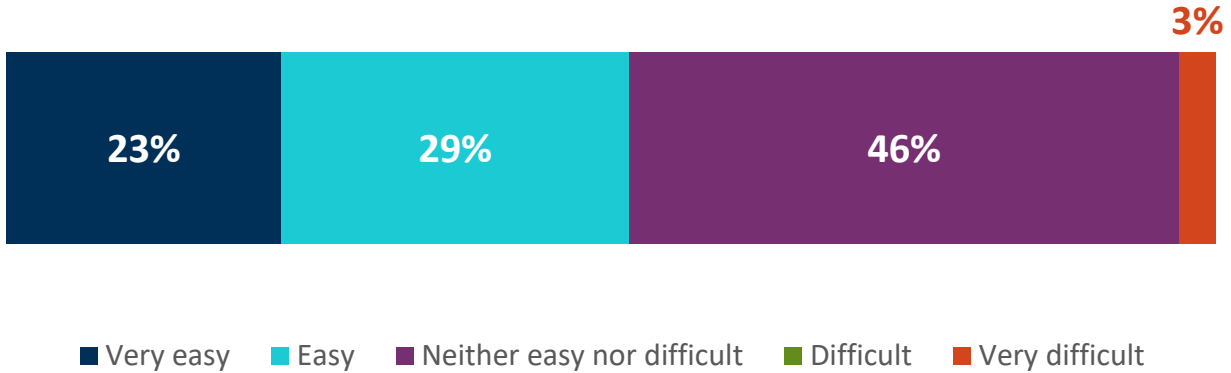
PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Reporting to the PDMP

91%

say their pharmacies report prescription data to the PDMP automatically, and 9% report manually.

Ease of reporting prescription info to PDMP



*When asked if they ever do not report to the PDMP, **74%** responded that they always report.*

No, I always report



Unsure of how to report



Difficulty or inconvenience of reporting



Data dispenser submission guide was not useful



Having to report manually



Note: Percents add up to more than 100% because of multiple selection.

PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Patient queries in the PDMP

26%

Of pharmacists are very or extremely confident that providers review patients prior to writing their prescriptions

Actions taken if doubts about provider reviewing patient

Contacted the prescriber to confirm



Reviewed the patient myself



Informed the patient you would not be able to fill the prescription



Asked the patient to speak with their provider about their medication



Referred the patient to another pharmacy



Dispensed a different quantity of the medication



Note: Percents add up to more than 100% because of multiple selection.

Pharmacists generally check the PDMP to verify patients based on their prescription usage. That is, 83% check for every patient being prescribed a controlled substance; 28% check for patients with known substance misuse, and 17% check patients with a prescription by a specific provider.

Some pharmacists also check for patients with known behavioral health issues (8%), patients who look suspicious (11%), or other reasons (3%). 8% check every patient regardless of the prescription status.

PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Denying prescriptions

71%

of pharmacists denied a patient a controlled substance prescription because of information found in the PDMP.

Reason for Denial

Patient had received too many prescriptions from the same or multiple providers

74%

Dangerous combination of therapies

59%

Not in the best interest of the patient

52%

Not in the usual course of medical treatment

30%

Patient had a high NarxScore in the PDMP

22%

Did not agree with prescriber

22%

Other

19%

Patient had traveled a long distance to obtain

19%

Patient had a history of paying higher prices for medication

4%

Not medically necessary

0%

Among those who denied, the most common reason for denial was receiving too many prescriptions from the same or multiple providers.

Note: Percents add up to more than 100% because of multiple selection.

As a result of prescription denial:

67% used the resources in the PDMP to guide their conversation with the patient. 67% discussed their concerns with the patient, 52% referred the patient back to their provider, and 7% just said no. 22% took a different step, including contacting the prescriber directly.

PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Why pharmacists use the PDMP

The most common reasons for pharmacists to use the PDMP were:

It reduces prescription opioid misuse, abuse, and diversion

94%

It is my moral and ethical obligation to do so

67%

I believe I am making a difference

64%

It is mandatory to do so

53%

For self-preservation

53%

I do not want to be viewed by patients as an easy provider to obtain prescriptions

14%

Other

11%

I do not want to be perceived as a problematic prescriber by my peers

6%

Note: Percents add up to more than 100% because of multiple selection.



Use of authorized delegates

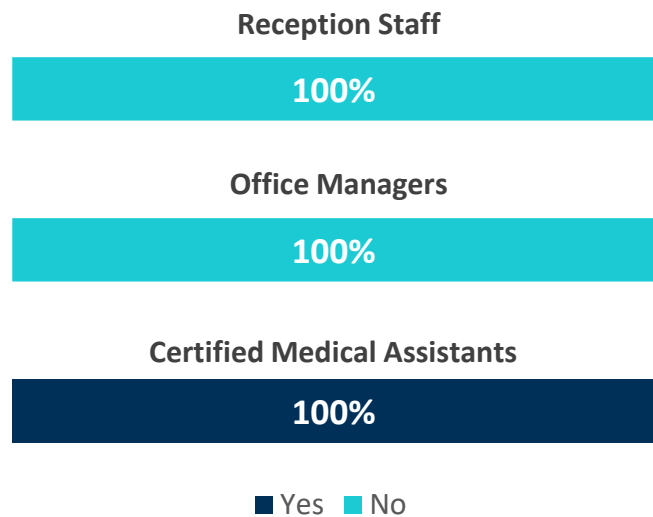


6%

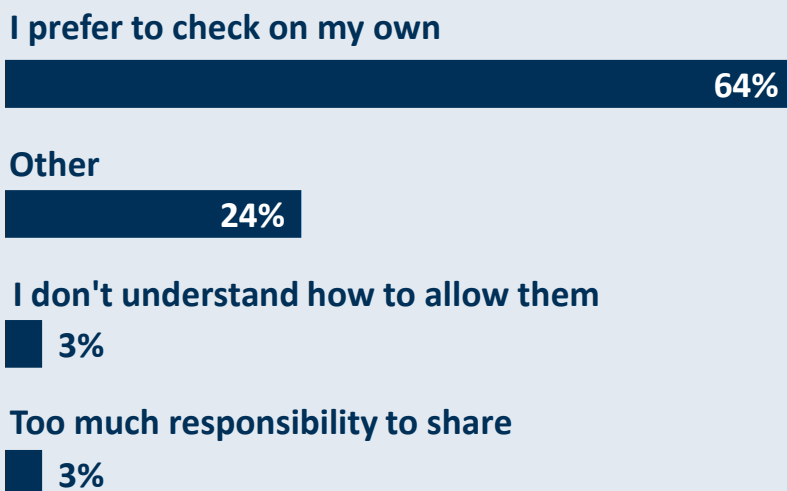
of pharmacists have authorized delegates on their accounts.

All pharmacists with authorized delegates had 5 or fewer delegates on their account, and 50% found delegates to be very helpful.

Who should be delegates?



15% of pharmacists who don't have delegates are interested in learning about adding delegates.



The majority of pharmacists don't have delegates because they prefer to check on their own.

PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Impacts of COVID-19

Increased patient queries due to seeing more patients during pandemic

100%

Reviewed less patients due to not seeing patients as frequently

100%

■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neither Agree nor Disagree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Only 3% of pharmacists said their PDMP use was affected by COVID-19. Pharmacists have largely not changed their PDMP habits due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

