

# PDMP PHYSICIANS HIGHLIGHTS

The **2023 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Awareness Feedback** survey was distributed to prescribers in Alaska to gauge their experience with the PDMP. This fact sheet shows the results of this survey for the **106** prescribing physicians who responded to the survey. The majority (94%) of physicians have been using the PDMP for at least 3-4 years.

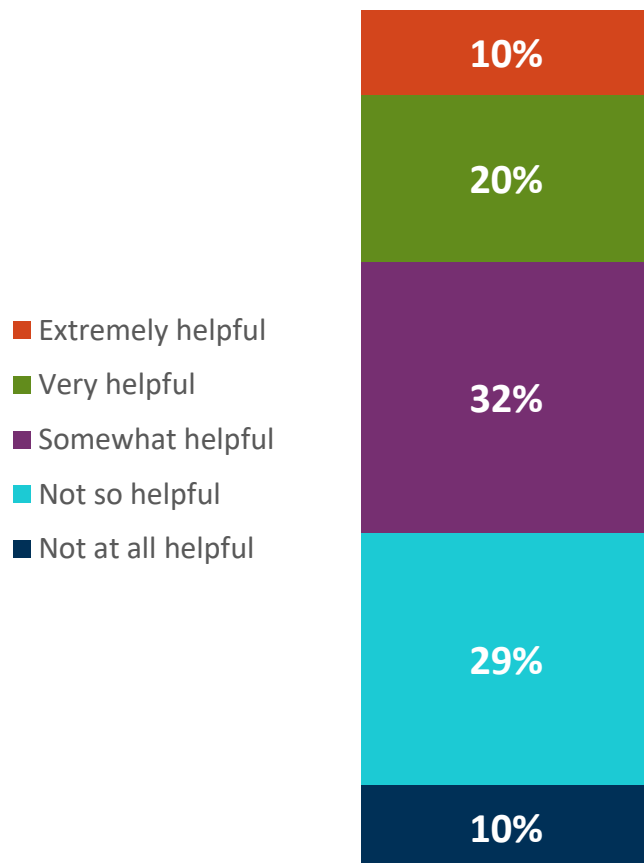


**75%**

*of physicians prescribe controlled substances at least weekly*

Please see main report for details.

## How helpful is your licensing board regarding PDMP registration?



*Half of responding physicians indicated they have not attempted to contact their board. Of physicians who did, **62%** found their board at least somewhat helpful.*

Note: Percents do not include respondents who said they had not contacted their board.

## When do physicians check the PDMP?

Every patient I am prescribing a controlled substance to



Patients who request a specific controlled substance



Patients with known substance misuse



Patients with known behavioral health issues



Other



Every patient, regardless of the prescription



Patients who look suspicious

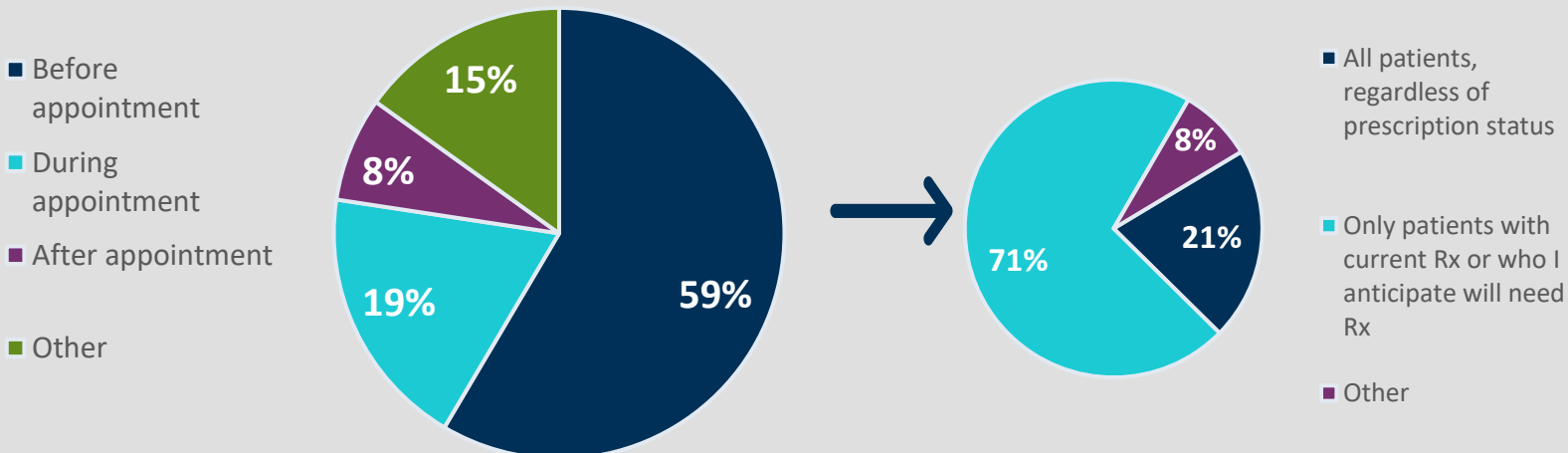


# 76%

*Check the PDMP for every patient they are prescribing a controlled substance to*

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

*Over half (59%) of physicians review patients in the PDMP **before** their appointment, and 70% of those that they review beforehand are patients with a current prescription or who they anticipate will need a prescription.*



## Do physicians dispense?



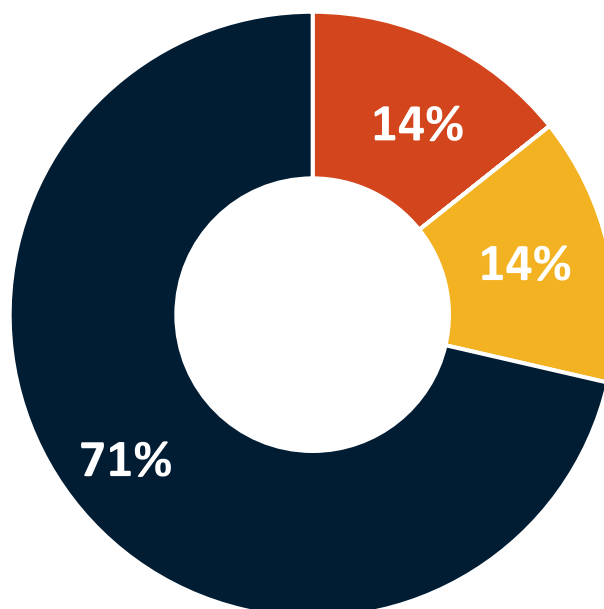
8%

*reported that they directly dispense controlled substances*

0%

*No physicians zero report on days they do not directly dispense*

*Of physicians indicating they directly dispense most indicate they never report the dispensation to the PDMP.*



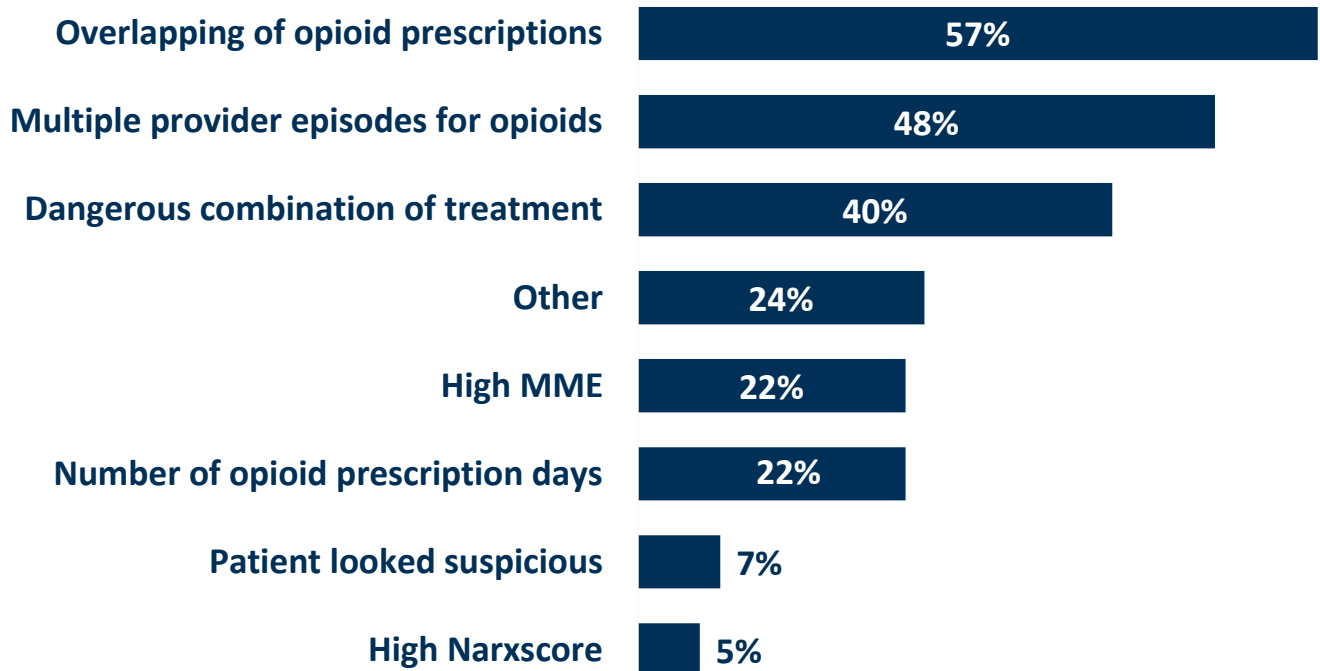
■ Immediately   ■ Only when I directly dispense   ■ Never

## Denial of prescriptions

**56%**

*of responding physicians reported denying a prescription because of information found in PDMP*

### Reasons for Denial



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



**6 out of 10** physicians found patient prescription history extremely or very valuable for informing decision making.

## PDMP usage and barriers to usage

### Why physicians use PDMP

*It reduces prescription opioid misuse, abuse, and diversion*



*It is mandatory to do so*



*It is my moral and ethical obligation to do so*



*For self-preservation*



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



*I believe I am making a difference*



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



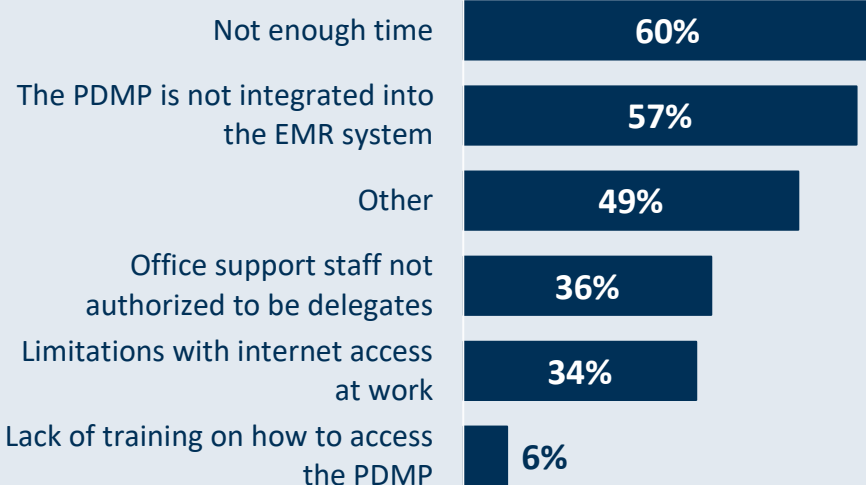
*Other*



*Most physicians reported using the PDMP to reduce misuse, abuse, and diversion*

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

### Barriers to using PDMP



**47%**  
*experienced barriers to using the PDMP*

*Physicians who selected other reported the PDMP being slow.*

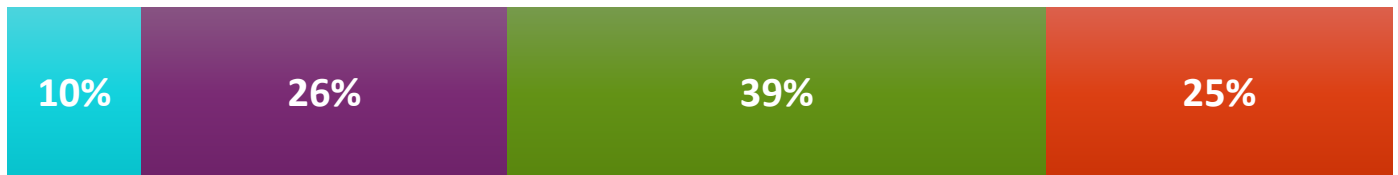
Note: Percents add up to more than 100% because of multiple selection.

## Report card & enhancements

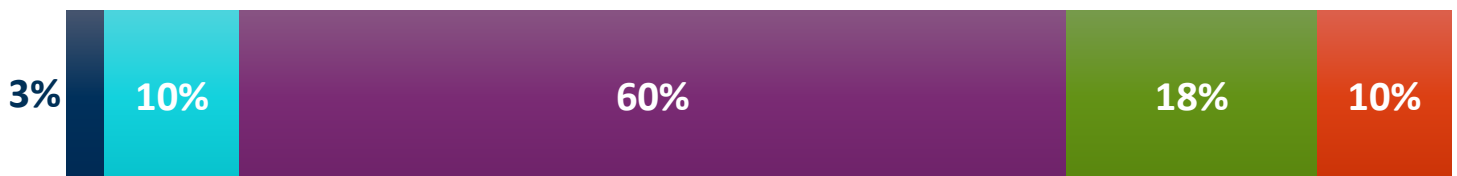


**74%** of physicians receive a prescriber report card.

### *I changed prescribing patterns as a result of report card*



### *I was surprised by how I compare to other prescribers in same specialty*



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree

\*Note: percents are calculated out of respondents who indicated that they receive a report card.

**Most physicians were not surprised by how they compared to other prescribers.**

**Few (10%) changed prescribing patterns based on report card.**

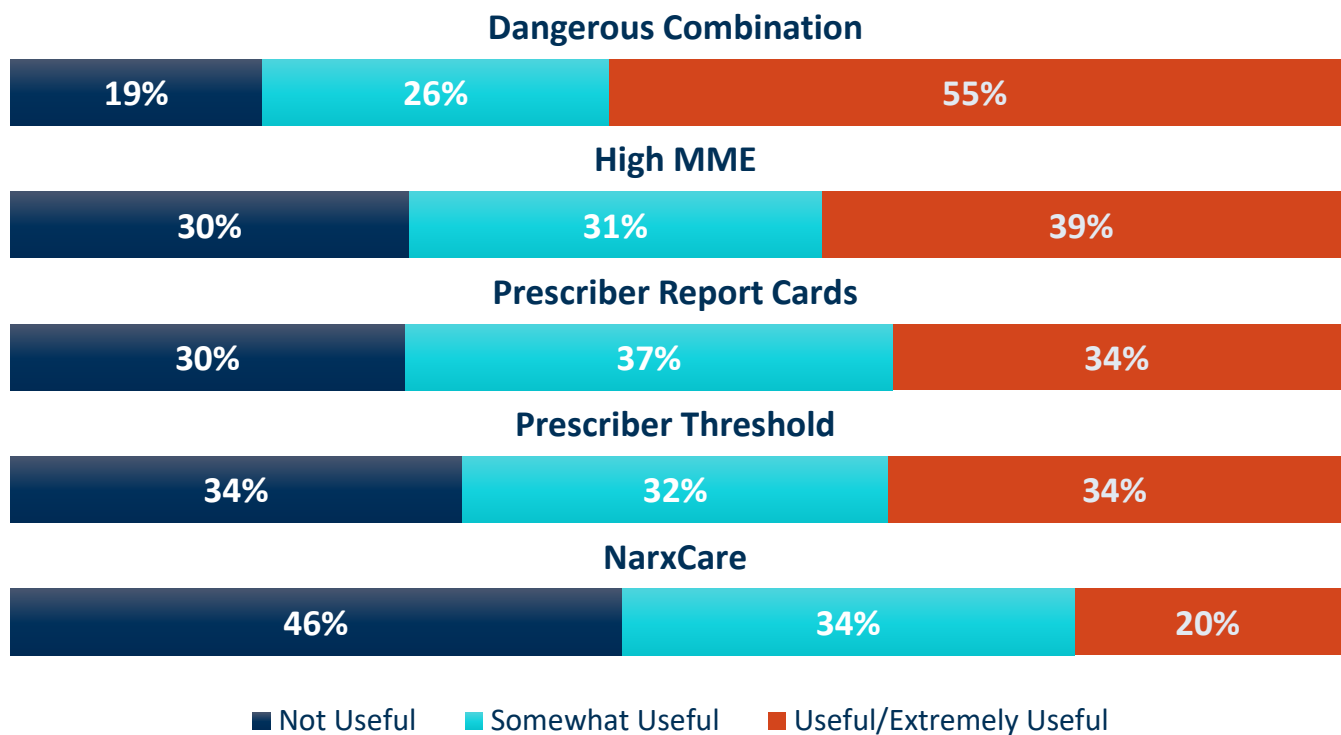
**33%**

*of physicians have reviewed their compliance report in the PDMP*

**46%**

*reported that they did not know they could review their compliance report*

## Usefulness of PDMP Enhancements



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*The most useful enhancements are dangerous combination alerts and high MME alerts while NarxCare is considered the least useful.*

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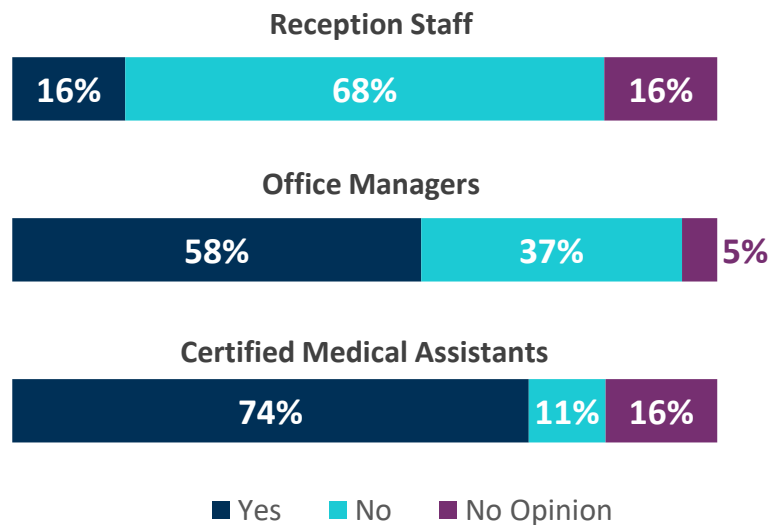
## Use of authorized delegates



**20%** of physicians have authorized delegates on their accounts

Over half (63%) of physicians with authorized delegates had 1-2 delegates on their account and found delegates to be very or extremely helpful (58%).

### Who should be delegates?



21% of physicians who don't have delegates are interested in learning about adding delegates.



Most physicians don't have delegates because they prefer to check on their own



## Impacts of COVID-19

Increased patient queries due to seeing more patients during pandemic



Reviewed less patients due to not seeing patients as frequently



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

***Only 19% of physicians said their PDMP use was affected by COVID-19.***

***Over half of those indicating an impact reported reviewing less patients due to not seeing them as frequently.***

