

This report contains summary data from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Data is provided as a courtesy for the board and is intended to be used for informational purposes only.

**Notices:**

- The new Apriss contract started April 1<sup>st</sup>. Updated user manuals and dispensation guides will be uploaded soon to pdmp.alaska.gov.
- License integration is tentatively scheduled to go live on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Need to upgrade the specifications to include the newly created license types.
- The Awareness and Feedback Questionnaire is in development and will available in June

**Registration**

**Portal (Professional license system)**

Number of licensed Dentists: 857  
Number of Dentists with DEA registrations: 715  
Number of PDMP Dental registrations: 463  
Directly dispensing controlled substances: 10  
Compliance rate (DEA and PDMP registrations): 65%

**AWARxE (PDMP)**

Number registered with the PDMP: 691

**Use – Review Compliance**

Federally scheduled II – III, over a three-day supply (some specialties omitted)  
Q4 2020: 5.92% (439 dispensations; 26 searched)  
Q1 2021: 4.69% (384 dispensations; 18 searched)

**MME Use (Q4 2020/Q1 2021)**

Number of patients treated with over 90 MME: 48 (decrease of 2 patients)  
Number of patients treated with over 120 MME: 15 (increase of 1 patient)  
Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines and opioids): 282  
(increase of 4 patients)

**Delinquent Reporters**

Providers who directly dispense are required to report daily. A letter clarifying the status of the providers who indicated they are directly dispensing will be sent after all the PDMP registrations have been processed. When the next compliance report is generated in July 2021, a list of delinquent reporters will be sent to the board staff with sample letters from the Board of Pharmacy.

**Recommendations**

- Encourage increased reviewing, including the use of delegates
- Provide guidance to licensees on prescribing practices related to the use of dangerous combinations



- Develop a plan for communication with licensees about mandatory reporting

**Contract Updates**

- A Communications Module allowing provider-to-provider communication within the PDMP will be launched soon. The quick start guide is complete, and instructions will be in the updated AWARxE user manual. Launch date TBD.
- We were recently notified of additional grant funding available to purchase the Provider Outlier Module. This module will identify prescribers whose prescribing habits could potentially have negative repercussions on their patients.
- We are discussing the Delinquent Reporting Notice with the states who have implemented the system and are anticipating enabling this feature once license renewals have completed. This enhancement will send notices to providers when at least one day of reporting is missed.

**MME Use**

Q4 2020/Q1 2021

The CDC recommends that primary care clinicians should reassess evidence of the benefits and risks to the individual when increasing dosage to greater or equal to 50 MME/day and avoid increasing to greater or equal to 90 MME/day when possible due to an increased risk of complications. The CDC also recommends avoiding concurrent benzodiazepine and opioid prescriptions, given the high risk of adverse drug-drug interactions, specifically respiratory depression and death.

CDC checklist for prescribing opioids -

[https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/PDMP\\_OpiodPrescribeCDC\\_06.2018.pdf](https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/PDMP_OpiodPrescribeCDC_06.2018.pdf)

CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain -

[https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/PDMP\\_OpiodPrescribeCDCPain\\_2018.10.pdf](https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/PDMP_OpiodPrescribeCDCPain_2018.10.pdf)

Provider Type	# Providers Prescribing at Least Once	# Providers Who Reviewed 0 Patients	# Providers Prescribing >90MME	# Providers Prescribing >120MME	Dangerous Combo	
					Benzo Opioid	Benzo Opioid Carisoprodol
DEN	329	55% (181)	7% (23)	3% (9)	26% (84)	0
MED	1093	22% (235)	14% (151)	14% (150)	35% (384)	2% (21)
NUR	537	19% (100)	11% (59)	7% (35)	24% (130)	2% (10)
OPT	5	80% (4)	0	0	0	0
PA	336	18% (61)	17% (58)	11% (38)	27% (92)	2% (6)
VET	191	71% (135)	2% (4)	1% (2)	4% (7)	0