

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:**

- Appriss has been awarded the contract to provide PDMP services
- The PDMP received the notice of award for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant and are revising our budget based on the funding received
- Analysis of Awareness and Feedback Questionnaire published (362 physicians and 108 physician assistants participated)

**Registration**

The current license renewal has been extended to April 1, 2021.

**Portal**

Physician Assistants

Number of licensed Physician Assistants: 738 (decrease of 4 licenses)

Number of PDMP Physician Assistants registrations: 488 (increase of 30 registrations)

Number of Physician Assistants with DEA registrations: 515

Compliance rate (PDMP and DEA registrations): 95%

Physicians (includes Podiatrists and Medical Residents)

Number of licensed Physicians: 4,768 (decrease of 161 licenses)

Number of PDMP Physicians registrations: 2,647 (increase of 267 registrations)

Number of Physicians with DEA registrations: 2,731

Compliance rate (PDMP and DEA registrations): 97%

**AWARxE (PDMP)**

Number registered with the PDMP: 4,735 (28% increase since November 2020)

Physician: 3,905

Physician Assistants: 745

Medical Resident with Prescriptive Authority: 59

Podiatrists: 26

Compliance rate: 66% (3% decrease since November 2020)

**Use**

Review compliance from October - December 2020: 43.01% (steady since November 2020)

42,763 dispensations; 18,393 searched

**MME Use (Q3/Q4 2020)**

Physician Assistants

Number of patients treated with over 90 MME: 407 (33% decrease from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with over 120 MME: 198 (15% decrease from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines and opioids): 723 (43% increase from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines, opioids, carisoprodol): 17 (30% increase from Q2/Q3 2020)

### Physicians

Number of patients treated with over 90 MME: 1,190 (4% decrease from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with over 120 MME: 503 (3% decrease from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines and opioids): 2,782 (5% increase from Q2/Q3 2020)

Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines, opioids, carisoprodol): 36 (14% decrease from Q2/Q3 2020)

### **Delinquent Reporters**

Providers who directly dispense are required to report daily. We are currently gathering this information on the renewal applications.

To date, 3 Physicians and 21 Physician Assistants have indicated they are directly dispensing on their renewal applications.

### **Recommendations**

- Encourage increased reviewing, including the use of authorized delegates.
- Issue periodic reminders to licensees on mandatory reviewing and reporting.
- Provide guidance to licensees on prescribing practices related to the use of dangerous combinations.
- Providers should be notified they are not able to prescribe federally scheduled II and III controlled substances until their registration in AWARxE has been approved.
- Encourage licensees to verify their user roles and specialties in AWARxE to improve the accuracy of reporting.

### **MME Use**

Q3/Q4 2020

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)

Alaska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program  
 Summary Prepared for the State Medical Board  
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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	321	59% (188)	7% (22)	2% (7)	27% (88)	0
MED	1235	31% (384)	21% (265)	12% (151)	35% (428)	2% (21)
NUR	528	20% (109)	11% (60)	7% (35)	25% (130)	2% (8)
OPT	3	100% (3)	0	0	0	0
PA	359	19% (67)	18% (66)	14% (51)	29% (103)	1% (5)
VET	187	71% (133)	2% (3)	1% (2)	4% (7)	0