

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.

News

- We are currently advertising for a Project Assistant to work on a sustainable plan to monitoring reporting compliance.
- The Communications module was enabled on February 8, 2022. Specific user configurations were completed on February 22, 2022.
- We are currently data sharing with 17 states and the Military Health System.
- We conducted a delegate audit during the month of March. Of the 982 providers who had delegates, 719 did not reverify their delegates during the audit.
- The 2021 Awareness and Feedback Questionnaire results are posted on the pdmp website under the resources tab. (Pharmacist and Delegate user role factsheets are attached to this report).

Upcoming Activities

- The 2022 Awareness and Feedback Questionnaire will launch this summer. An announcement will be made through AWAxR and posted to users' dashboards.
- The division has issued two RFP's: one for Statewide Integration, and one for a PDMP Review and Assessment.

There are differences in the number of pharmacists licensed by the Board of Pharmacy and the number of pharmacists registered in the PDMP. The registration counts include the federal user role categories and non-Alaska licensed pharmacists. Some Alaska-licensed pharmacists have opted to register even though not required to by statute and regulations.

Registration

Portal (Professional license system)

Number of licensed Pharmacists: 1,114
Number of PDMP Pharmacist registrations: 781
Number of Pharmacists dispensing: 828

AWARxR (PDMP)

Number registered with the PDMP: 1,108
Pharmacists – 669
PIC – 83
IHS Dispenser – 103
VA Dispenser – 19
Military Dispenser – 13
Out of State Pharmacist – 211
Out of State PIC – 10
Pharmacist Delegates – 105 (1,854 technicians and interns)

Delinquent Reporters

The process for addressing delinquent reporters is under revision, pending further discussion from the Board of Pharmacy and ongoing work with Bamboo.

Recommendations

- Encourage the use of authorized delegates.

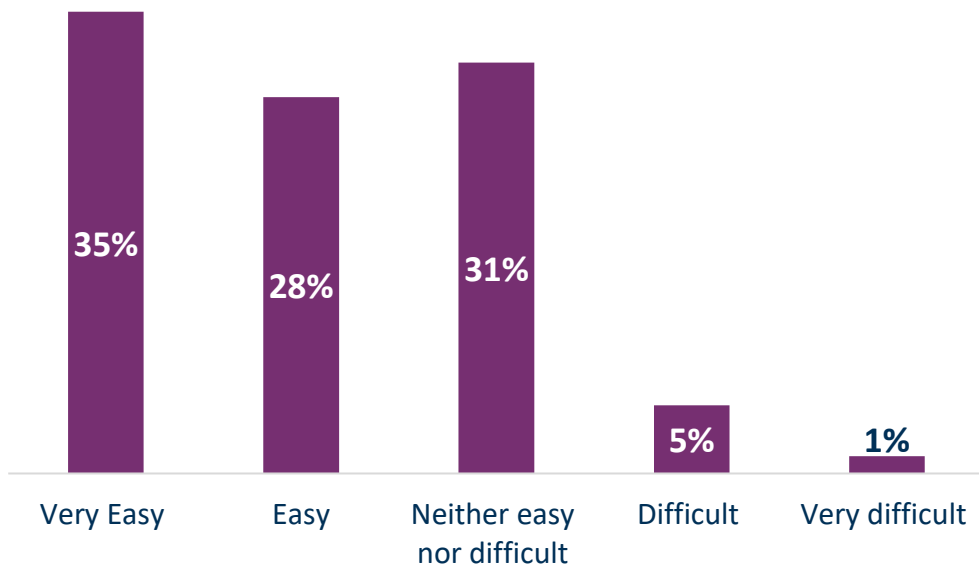
PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

The 2021 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Awareness Feedback survey was distributed to users in Alaska to gauge their experience with the PDMP. This pamphlet shows the results of this survey for Pharmacists who prescribe controlled substances. **There were 102 respondents.**

Please see main report for details.

Reporting to the PDMP

Ease of daily prescription to PDMP



90%
say their pharmacies report prescription data to the PDMP automatically, and 10% report manually.

When asked if they ever do not report to the PDMP, 85% responded that they always report.



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

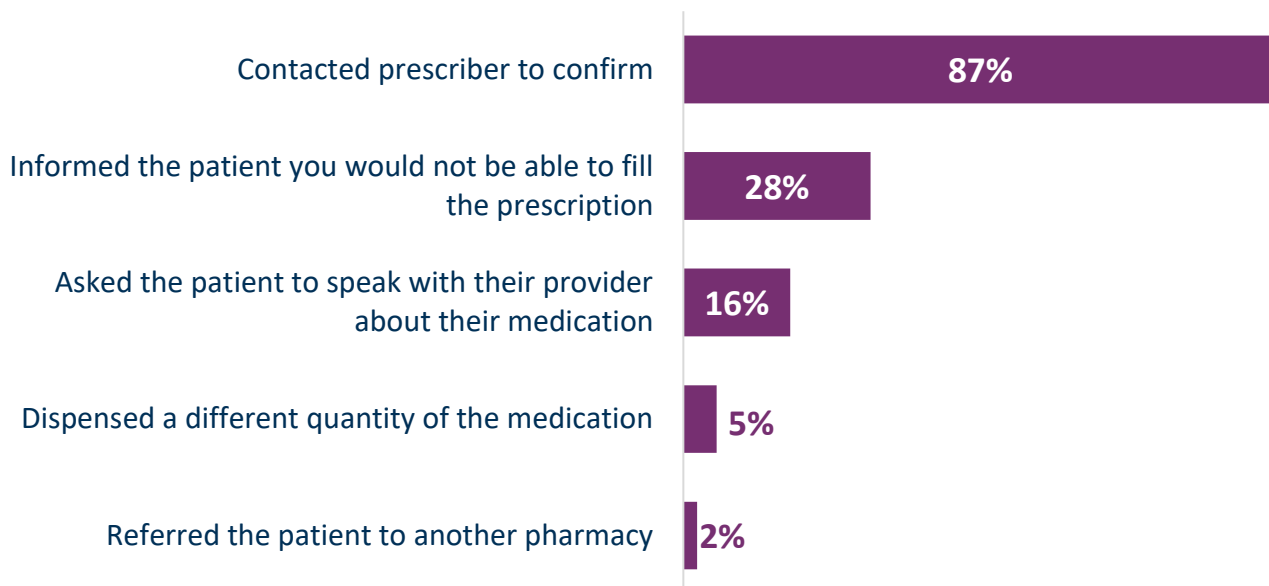
PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Patient queries in the PDMP

74%

Of pharmacists are confident that providers query patients prior to writing their prescriptions

Actions taken if doubts about provider querying patient



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Pharmacists generally check the PDMP to verify patients based on prescription usage. That is, 59% check for every patient being prescribed a controlled substance; 17% check for patients with known substance misuse, and 16% check patients with a prescription by a specific provider.

Some pharmacists also check for patients with known behavioral health issues (11%), patients who look suspicious (10%), or other reasons (16%). 1% check every patient regardless of the prescription status.

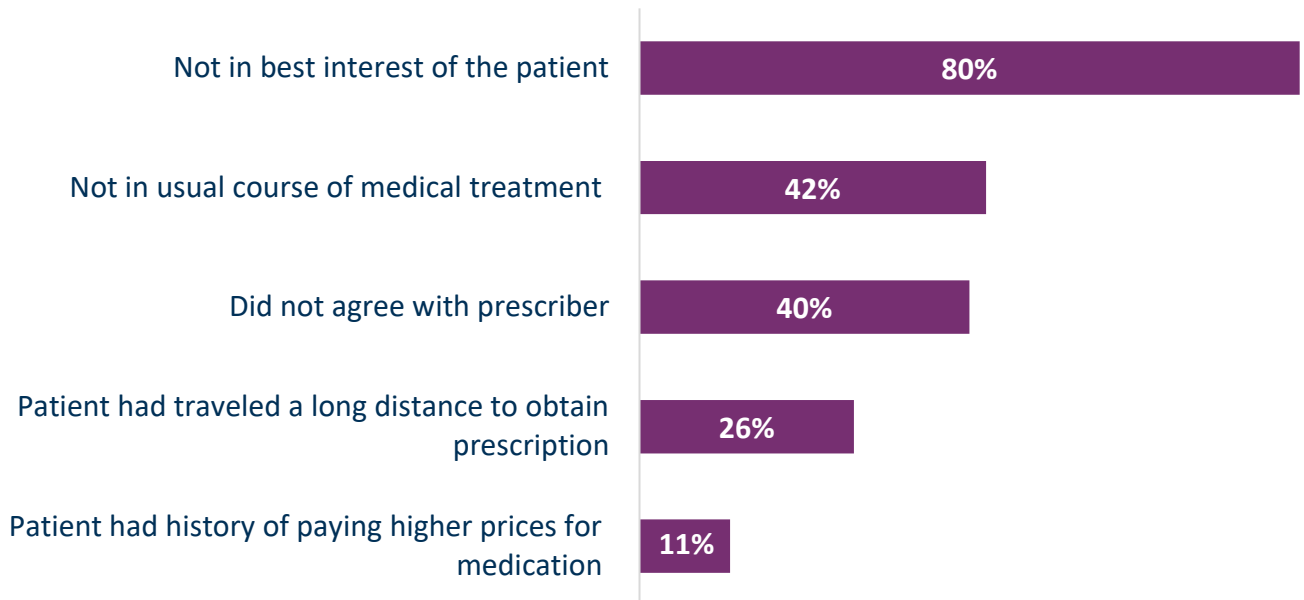
PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Denying prescriptions

70%

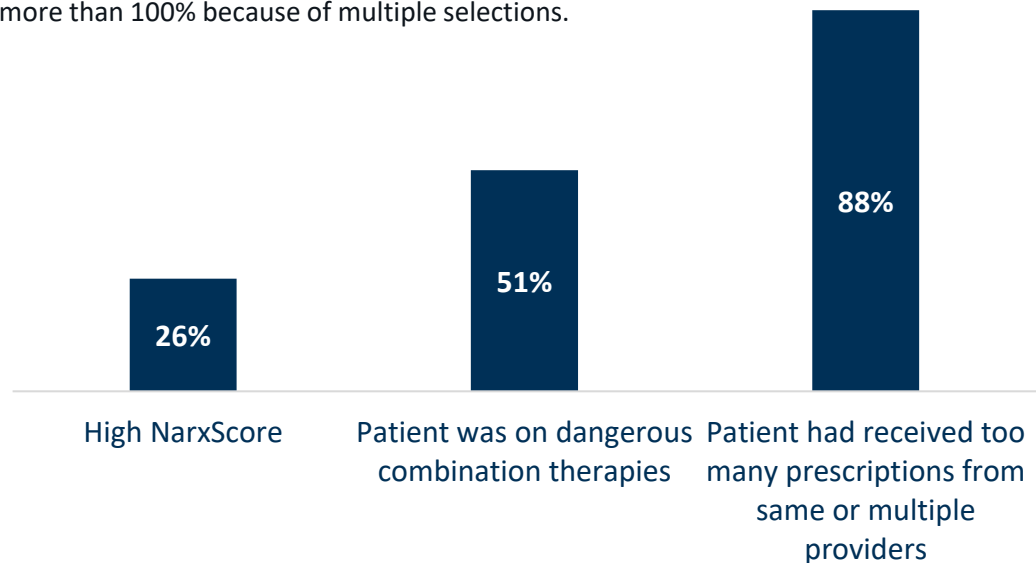
of pharmacists denied a patient a controlled substance prescription because of information found in the PDMP.

Reasons for denial



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

Among those who denied, PDMP patient information considered most helpful was receiving too many prescriptions from the same or multiple providers.



As a result of prescription denial:

31% used the resources in the PDMP to guide their conversation with the patient. 49% discussed their concerns with the patient, 37% referred the patient back to their provider, and 6% just said no. 15% 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:

Ethical Obligations

- **72%** did not want to contribute to abuse, misuse, or addiction
- **57%** felt it was a moral or ethical obligation
- **37%** felt they were making a difference

Professional Standing

- **39%** did not want to be viewed by patients as an easy provider
- **29%** used it for self-preservation
- **23%** did not want to be perceived as a problematic prescriber

Mandatory Requirements

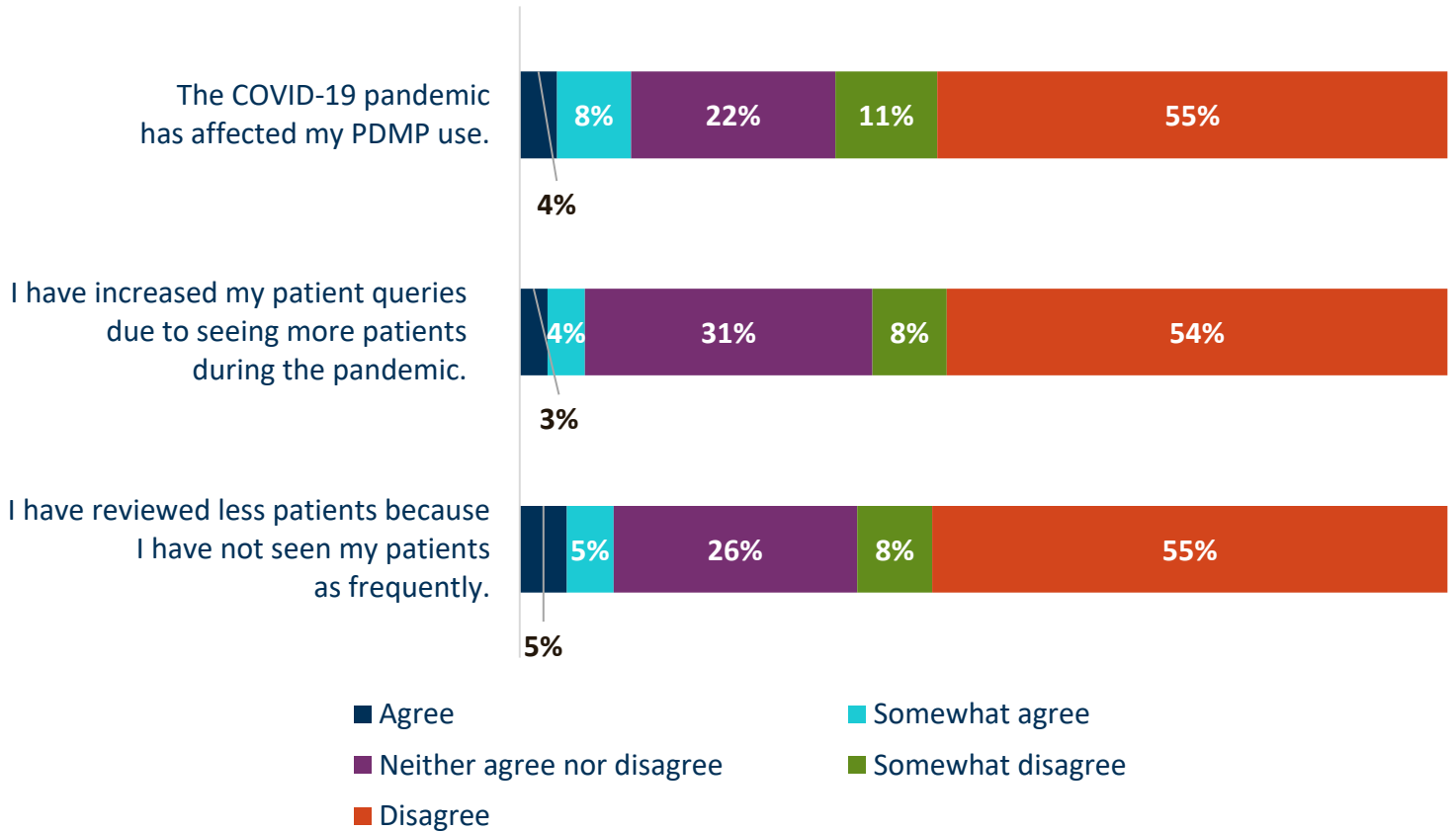
- **44%** said it was mandatory
- **4%** said they were complying with requirements

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



PDMP PHARMACIST HIGHLIGHTS

Impacts of COVID-19



*Pharmacists have largely **not changed their PDMP habits** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*



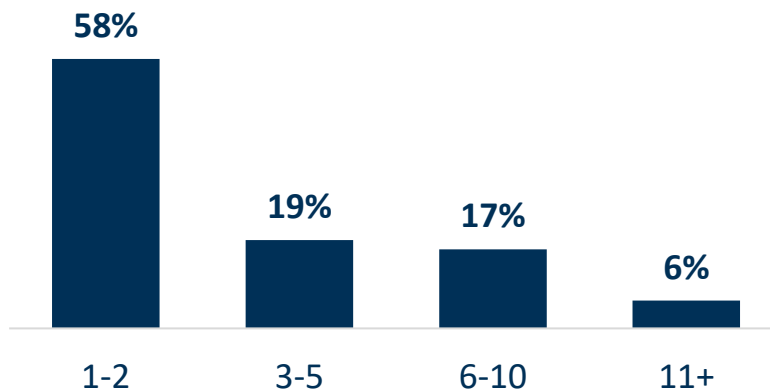
PDMP DELEGATES HIGHLIGHTS

The **2021 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Awareness Feedback survey** was distributed to users in Alaska to gauge their experience with the PDMP. This pamphlet shows the results of this survey for delegates who prescribe controlled substances. **There were 69 respondents.**

Please see main report for details.

Delegate background

Number of PDMP users delegates are registered with



86%

of delegates work for a prescriber in a hospital or office.

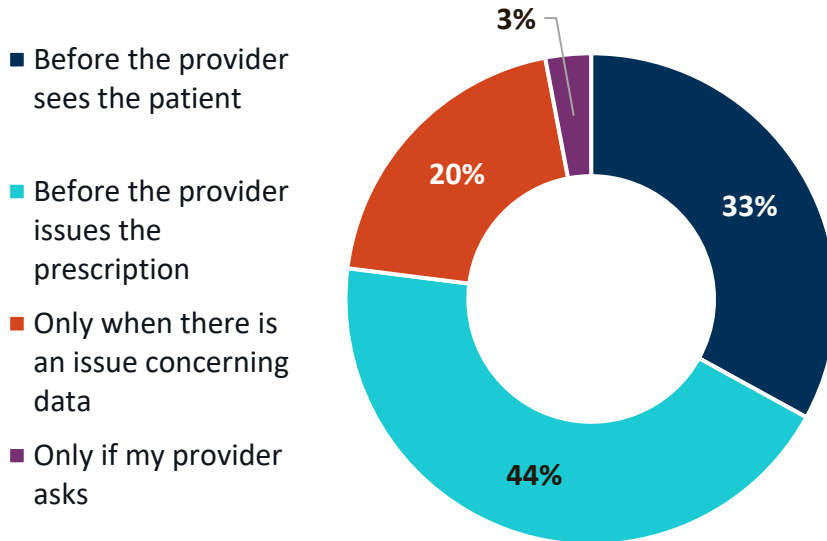
14%

of delegates work for a pharmacist.

DELEGATES HIGHLIGHTS

Sharing PDMP Information

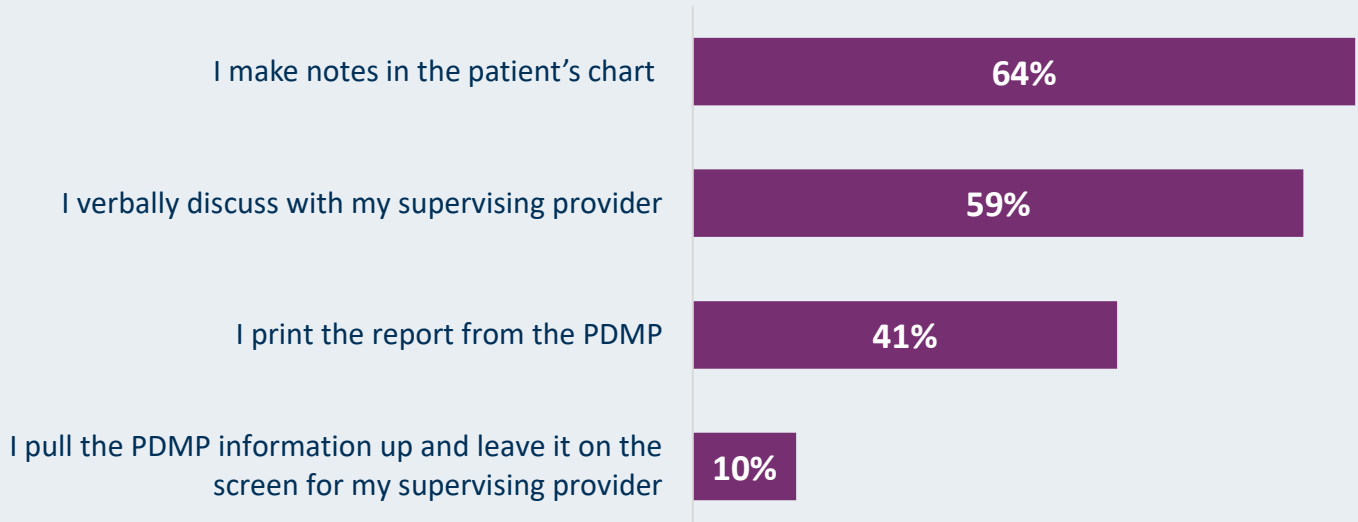
When delegates share PDMP information with their supervising provider



*A **third** of delegates share information before the provider sees the patient.*

Delegates use a combination of methods to share information with the supervising provider.

How delegates share PDMP information with the supervising provider

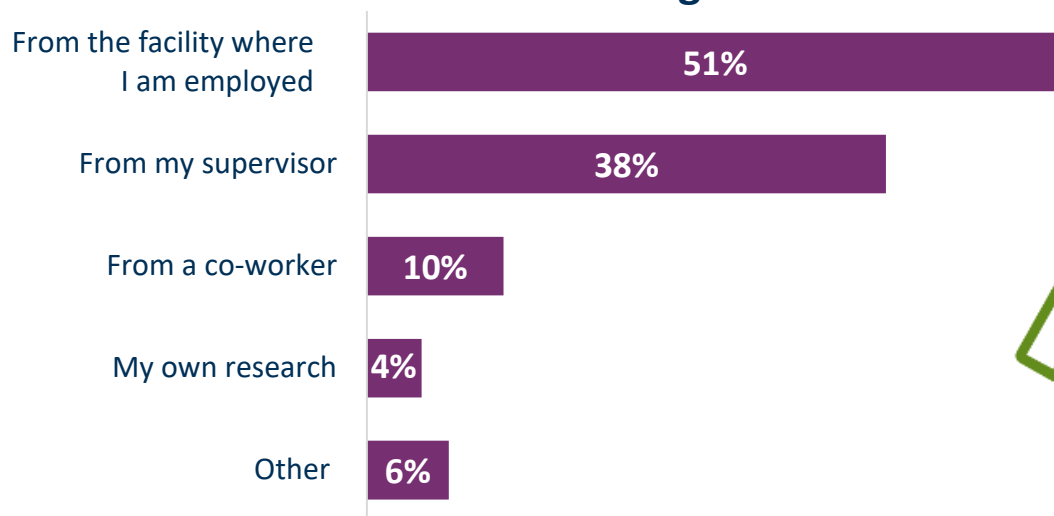


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DELEGATES HIGHLIGHTS

Delegate integration into clinical practice

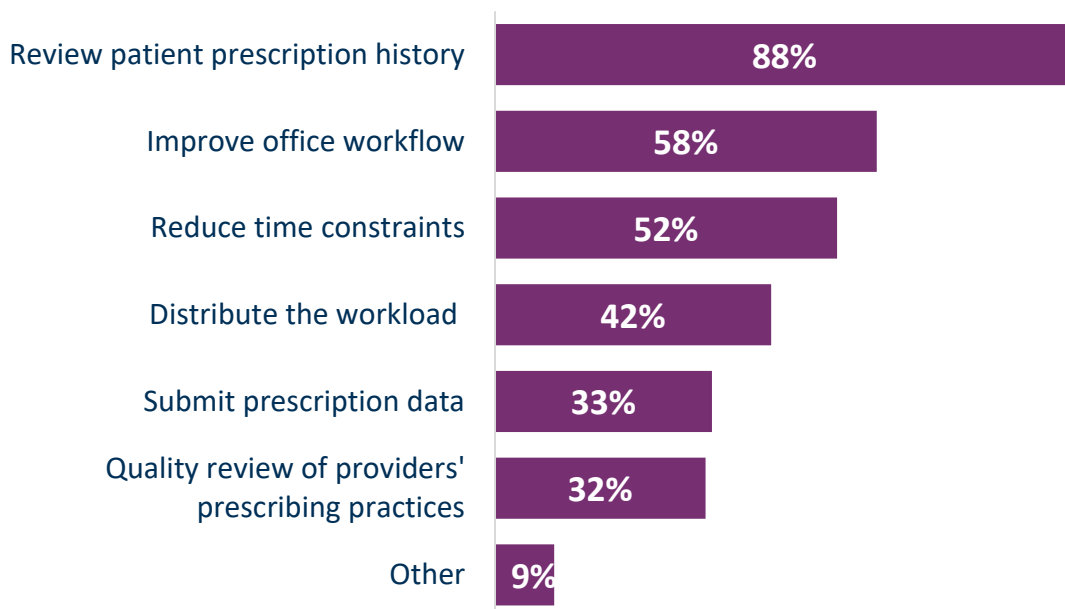
How delegates learn about the opportunity to become a delegate



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

Delegates feel their role is most useful for reviewing prescription history, improving office workflow, and saving time

How delegates perceive their role to be useful



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