

Alaska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
Summary Prepared for Board of Veterinary Examiners
March 2021



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

- New contract with Apriss will start in April 2021

Registration (changes since January noted)

Portal

Number of licensed Veterinarians: 383 (5% increase)
Number of PDMP Veterinarian registrations: 325 (4% increase)
Number of Veterinarians with DEA registrations: 319 (4% decrease)
Number of Veterinarians directly dispensing: 64 (increase of 1)
Compliance rate (DEA and PDMP registrations): 98.5% (95%)

AWARxE (PDMP)

Number registered with the PDMP: 344 (1% decrease)
Compliance rate (DEA and AWARE): 108% (95% in January)

Use

Review compliance of Federally Schedule II - III from October - December 2020: 1.46%
205 Dispensations; 3 searched
January 2021: 0.93% - 108 dispensations; 1 searched
February 2021: 1.17% - 72 dispensations; 3 searched

MME Use (Q3/Q4 2020)

Number of patients treated with over 90 MME: 4 (same)
Number of patients treated with over 120 MME: 3 (25% decrease)
Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines and opioids): 10
(29% decrease)

Delinquent Reporters

Providers who directly dispense are required to report daily. This will be analyzed quarterly, starting in April 2021.

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 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
Develop a plan for communication with licensees about delinquent reporting



Analysis and Feedback Questionnaire (56 veterinarians participated)

- Less than 1% of respondents indicated they had delegates; of those who did, the majority had one or two delegates
- Veterinarians stated the PDMP was:
 - Burdensome (93%)
 - the information is not considered valuable (91%)
- 68% said they would be happy to use if the PDMP related to their clientele
- 91% stated training on identifying drug-seeking behaviors would be more beneficial than the PDMP
- One respondent reported the PDMP contributed good to their practice

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_OpioidPrescribeCDC_06.2018.pdf

CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain -

https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/PDMP_OpioidPrescribeCDCPain_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 | 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 |