

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 (changes since January noted)

##### Portal (Professional license system)

Number of licensed Veterinarians: 401 (includes 5 Temporary Permits)  
Number of PDMP Veterinarian registrations: 320  
Number of Veterinarians with DEA registrations: 332  
Number of Veterinarians directly dispensing: 66  
Compliance rate (DEA and PDMP registrations): 96%

##### AWARxE (PDMP)

Number registered with the PDMP: 350

#### Use – Review Compliance

Federally Scheduled II – III controlled substances, over a three-day supply (some specialties omitted)

Q4 2020: 1.42% - 211 dispensations; 3 searched  
Q1 2021: 2% - 300 dispensations; 6 searched

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

Number of patients treated with over 90 MME: 4 (same)  
Number of patients treated with over 120 MME: 2 (decrease of one patient)  
Number of patients treated with dangerous combinations (benzodiazepines and opioids): 7 (30% decrease)

#### 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 has been provided to staff. 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 of clients, 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
- Encourage licensees to verify their user roles and specialties in AWARxE to improve the accuracy of prescriber report cards
- Develop a plan for communication with licensees about delinquent 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 AWAxRxE 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\\_OpioidPrescribeCDC\\_06.2018.pdf](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](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	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