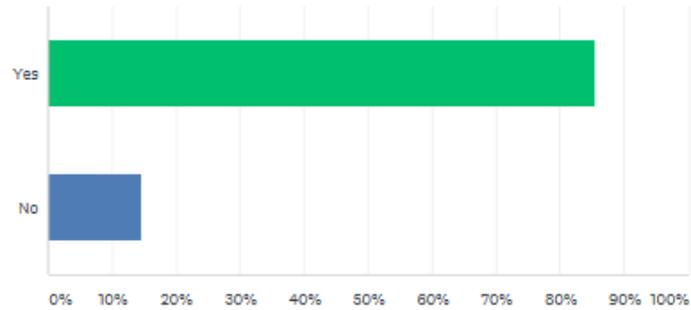


Q1

 Customize  Save as

As a licensee, have you experienced difficulty utilizing the Alaska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)?

Answered: 96 Skipped: 4



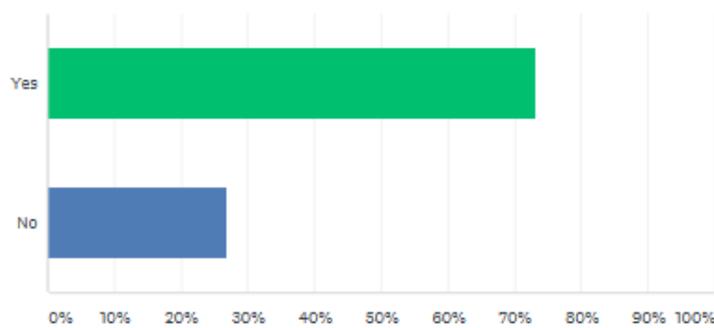
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Yes | 85.42% | 82 |
| No | 14.58% | 14 |
| TOTAL | | 96 |

Q2

 Customize  Save as

As a practitioner, do you feel that your clients have suffered as a result of the regulations of the PDMP?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 3



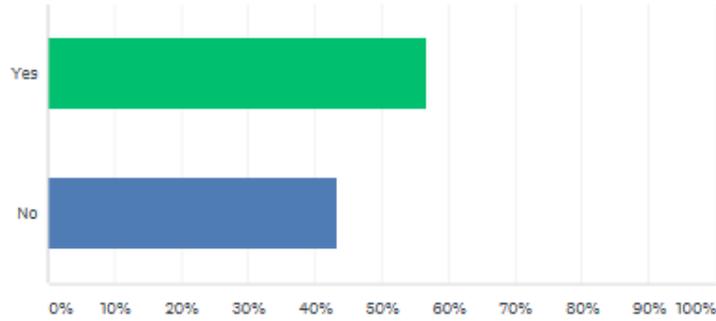
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Yes | 73.20% | 71 |
| No | 26.80% | 26 |
| TOTAL | | 97 |

Q3

 [Customize](#) [Save as](#) 

Has the PDMP placed significant financial burden onto you or your practice?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 3



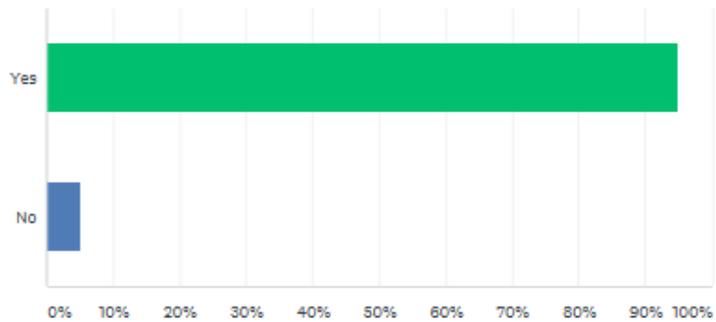
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| ▼ Yes | 56.70% | 55 |
| ▼ No | 43.30% | 42 |
| TOTAL | | 97 |

Q4

 [Customize](#) [Save as](#) 

Do you support veterinarians being exempt from having to utilize the PDMP?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| ▼ Yes | 95.00% | 95 |
| ▼ No | 5.00% | 5 |
| TOTAL | | 100 |

Do you have any comments regarding Alaska veterinarians' participation in the PDMP?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 37

Showing 63 responses

- How is it legal to open an owners medical records and have the risk (on the Veterinary Practitioner as well as the Veterinary hospital to violate HIPPA. Is the state of AK willing to pay for the HIPPA training for all Veterinarians and Vet techs??? Since Vets right only 0.35% of the total opioid scripts why are you making Vets be apart of this program. Does buying a \$60,000 truck and a snow plow for a 5 foot wide and 12 foot long drive way make sense - that's what you are doing here with this PDMP program that has failed in other states.

1/17/2020 1:33 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

- TO DATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PDMP FOR VETERINARIANS HAS PROVEN TO BE A LABOR INTENSIVE AND COSTLY GATHERING OF USELESS DATA THAT HAS NO PROVEN EFFECT TO HAVE REDUCED THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC. THE PDMP WAS ROLLED OUT WITH LITTLE COMMUNICATION, POOR SUPPORT AND ABYSMAL TRAINING & GUIDANCE PARTICULARLY FOR VETERINARY USERS. AS WELL VETERINARIANS WERE NOT EVEN CONSULTED OR APPROACHED IN THE DESIGN OR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PDMP WHICH HAS LEAD TO MANY HURDLES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM. VETERINARIANS CONTRIBUTE A NEGLIBLE AMOUNT OF OPIOIDS TO THE SYSTEM REPORTEDLY LESS THAN 0.5% OF THE OVERALL PRESCRIBED OPIOIDS NATIONWIDE. THE COST AND BURDEN TO ADMINISTER THIS PROGRAM TO VETERINARIANS IS SENSLESS WHEN THESE FUNDS CAN BE USED BY OTHER PROGRAMS THAT TRULY REDUCE THE ACCESS TO OPIOID ABUSE.

1/17/2020 12:07 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

- I am not currently in clinical practice, so have not had to directly utilize the PDMP, and cannot speak to the financial burden personally. However, I have heard from my colleagues that they are concerned about potential privacy violations, based on accessing human medical information; and that there is a burden to comply, without any certainty that the effort actually contributes to a useful end product within the PDMP's goals. A small practice may not have a licensed vet tech, to whom they can delegate the reporting. There is a lot of confusion as to what information is supposed to be reported (owner information or pet information) in the query and in the report. From a vet standpoint, and also from the standpoint of the general public, I support exempting vets from the PDMP. There are other avenues that can add more benefit to the goal of decreasing opioid abuse (education about identifying drug seeking behavior, clear guidelines on how to report suspected drug seeking; more research into how much medications received from veterinarians are actually contributing to the opioid crisis), Exempting veterinarians may actually increase the efficiency of the PDMP, by not unnecessarily complicating the overall data with the small percentage of animal prescription data. There would be a significant cost to the state to actually make the PDMP usable for animal information; educate and train veterinarians and vet staff adequately on the database as well as human medical privacy regulations; and to monitor and enforce compliance for a relatively small number of veterinarians out of the overall number of practitioners registered. All of that cost to address something that has not been identified as a significant component of the opioid crisis. For efficiency of the program, cost savings to the state, increased efficiency for vet clinics, and ultimately a cost savings to pet owners, exempt veterinarians from the PDMP requirements!

1/17/2020 10:08 AM

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- The PDMP is a detriment to caring for our patients well being. It is a burden to the veterinary staff. It makes it very difficult to prescribe the medications they need for serious conditions

1/17/2020 9:25 AM

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- The system is cumbersome and irrelevant to our patient population. The main burden it places on veterinarians is time, a significant amount. Our patients can change birthdays and names as often as the owners choose making this system completely useless for us.

1/17/2020 4:17 AM

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Veterinarians should be exempt because the system is poorly organized, doesn't take into account that animals can't be followed like people, there is no data with respect to veterinary drug diversion in Alaska (the powers that be don't even know if there is a problem!), there is no good way to enforce this regulation, the resources put toward veterinary participation in the PDMP would be far better utilized where there is actually a proven drug diversion problem, animals are hurt by this legislation because veterinarians are just not utilizing controlled substances for their patients that need them. This is an example of legislators possibly having their hearts in the right place (fewer drugs for addicts) but not thinking through the realities associated with such regulation. As I understand it, 38 other states have exempted veterinarians from participation in the PDMP with no ill effects on the problem of drug diversion because SO FEW DRUGS ARE ACTUALLY DIVERTED FROM THE VETERINARY PROFESSION!! In the words of Matt Damon in "The Martian": Do the math!!

1/16/2020 9:32 PM

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FOR THE LOVE OF ALL THINGS HOLY, in how many different ways do we have to express that this is making the practice of appropriate veterinary analgesia so difficult that once again, it is falling out of the hands of the veterinarian and into the care of the owner, a human pharmacist (don't even get me started), or NO ONE, leaving our patients without appropriate PAIN RELIEF!!!! As I understand it, this was implemented without any consultation with the veterinary community. What an incredible hardship this has imposed!!!

1/16/2020 6:31 PM

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I am very supportive of programs designed to reduce illegal drug use, however, the pdmp program is designed exclusively for practitioners and not for veterinarians. The program asks for information we do not have readily available (client birth dates) and as we are not covered by HIPAA having exposure to a client's prescription drug list is an invasion of their privacy. We are also not trained to address looking for addictive habits in humans. Again we focus on animals.

1/16/2020 5:46 PM

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It was bad enough having to report less frequently but the daily reporting was so demanding that I gave up even trying! I won't search a prescription under the owner's first name but will enter only the animal's name as the "first" name in a search since I don't feel I have the right to view the owners personal medical prescription history and it would violate their HIPPA rights. A true drug seeker would never use the same dog/cat name twice between two different clinics anyway to hide the fact they're trying to get drugs from different veterinarians. Max would become Maxmillion or even Shadow or Bear....

1/16/2020 5:23 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It is time consuming and not user friendly.

1/16/2020 4:29 PM

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It's too confusing trying to look up a patient. The owners can easily change their pets birthday from clinic to clinic. This will allow them to skirt around the whole purpose of the PDMP. Since pets don't have official IDs we can't easily confirm birthdate. I am all for monitoring but it's hard to do with pets

1/16/2020 4:23 PM

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Being a very small house call practice that rarely prescribes controlled substances, having to deal with daily reporting even if I don't prescribe is 1 more straw to making me ready to retire. 1 less vet in a state with a shortage of veterinarians.

1/16/2020 4:16 PM

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The system has many flaws, including buttons that are not workable, medication NDC numbers that are not valid. The biggest concern is this is meant to track and alert personnel to potential abuse, however, animals do not have any mandatory permanent identifications so any person wishing to deceive for gain of medications can lie about their pets, age, name, DOB, etc., and seek multiple sources for medications for illicit use. Most veterinarians, who are treating chronic pain/hospice usually have a great relationship with the clients and are very aware of use. Also, veterinarians do not bill insurances so the clients must pay full cost for medications and this creates a financial deterrent to deceive. No veterinarian will just prescribe controlled medications without a relationship, including exams, blood work, and other diagnostics, and any clients who protests to this are usually unhappy and will not seek services and ultimately not receive controlled substances. Veterinarians do not routinely hand out controlled substances for out-patient use, and are responsible very a insignificant portion of the total dispensed controlled substances. Plus, with the huge medication shortages facing the veterinarian industry, many clinics have become more stringent about prescribing select medications for out-patient use. Please except veterinarians in Alaska from the PDMP, we are not a source for drug abuse in our human counter-parts and our true patients/clients are suffering due to the added time constraints now added to vets and staff who are already max out and spread thin, who have even less time to actually treat and heal our furry friends and family. Just one PDMP search and RX creation takes a minimum of 5 minutes IF the system is working appropriately. If we multiply this by 6 we have lost a minimum of 30 minutes a day for a process which is irrelevant to our profession creating more stress, longer hours, and more burn-out in a profession already taxed to they max and with the highest problems for fatigue.

1/16/2020 3:14 PM

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This is not a problem that has any relevance to veterinary medical practice. We are not the practitioners that hand out opioids or other scheduled drugs that are abused by people. I only write prescriptions for those drugs now and its a problem for my clients ro get them for their pers as we are a small town ...Wal Mart is 100 miles away. Takes them 3 to 7 days to get them now even if they use an on line pharmacy etc. I understand tge need for the PDMP in human medicine but is is unnessary and overkill for veterinary medicine.

1/16/2020 3:06 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

PDMP is not the solution to the opioid epidemic, and is a needless burden on veterinarians and their clients.

1/16/2020 3:05 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Unfortunately the veterinary profession either was not consulted or failed miserably providing any input regarding the current application of the PDMP. A total revamping of the current PDMP for the veterinary profession should be considered make DVM's exempt entirely.

1/16/2020 2:41 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Very difficult and time consuming to report

1/16/2020 2:39 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

This has been an unnecessary action from the outset and has been onerous in our practice!!

1/16/2020 2:34 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It's structure makes it impossible for veterinarians to comply with the regulations. Trying to navigate the PDMP takes up time that we could be using caring for patients.

1/15/2020 11:28 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It is not even possible to track the client based on the way the practitioner is asked to fill out the PDMP form.

1/15/2020 10:26 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The scope of my practice does not involve the products under scrutiny in this program. It is entirely a waste of my time, money and frustration.

1/15/2020 8:05 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

We do so few in house dispensing of controlled drugs that the PDMP has made me simply try to change what I prescribe to avoid the hassle of having to deal with it, which does inconvenience the clients and my staff.

1/15/2020 1:50 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

It's a time suck

1/15/2020 11:17 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

Showing 23 selected responses

I do not feel that PDMP is helpful to the owners or pet patients in Alaska. I have had difficulty troubleshooting PDMP in the past year which has taken valuable time away from patient care. I logged a drug incorrectly under the owners name instead of the patients name. I was unable to correct this mistake because I did not have the correct permissions to edit being a Veterinarian. This "error" (owner vs pet) was not recognized as an error and thus could not be corrected though the "error correction" window. This error was never resolved despite contacting PDMP staff. Filling out the form is difficult for Veterinarians because we do not have an in house pharmacy/pharmacy DEA or Prescription number with Avimark. I also feel that I am not qualified to and should not make medical decisions about the medications that the owner is taking while trying to treat my pet patient.

1/15/2020 10:23 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

I prescribe less than one controlled substance a month.

1/15/2020 8:02 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

Although I have experienced some suspected opioid seeking in another state in which I am licensed (1-2 cases in over 10 years), my impression is that it likely happens more in emergency type practices that I work in and even at that is generally very infrequent. I believe other solutions such as limited supplies with the need for re-exam and refill may be more effective in veterinary medicine without expose client medical history. Also potentially requiring a CE (that could be done as a webinar or online course) regarding things to watch for as opioid seeking behaviours in clients may also be useful.

1/15/2020 7:32 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

The PDMP is counter-productive to my practice, a financial burden and not relevant and I absolutely support exemption for veterinarians in Alaska.

1/15/2020 2:13 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

Keep the government out of business

1/15/2020 12:04 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

I script out significantly less controlled medications due to the limitations of the pdmp and I am worried that my patients are the ones suffering the most

1/14/2020 10:37 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#) ▼

As a zoo and aquarium veterinarian, the PDMP rules do not seem to apply, and it is difficult to have to interpret each rule in a veterinary setting

1/14/2020 10:17 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I am a relief veterinarian, so using the PDMP is different at every practice. I do not know any veterinary staff well enough to trust that they will enter my prescriptions correctly, so I have to do all the recording myself. Having to track down the clinic owner's DEA number as well as entering my own is an additional burden. I estimate that each controlled drug prescription that I prescribe/dispense from a clinic takes at least 10-15 minutes of my time (so realistically adds an extra \$7-10 to the cost to the clinic for that prescription). Writing a prescription to be filled at a pharmacy takes less time - maybe 5 minutes out of an appointment (15-20% of the total appointment time) to request and look up the client's birthdate. Then the clinic loses out on possible medication profit. This law is overly burdensome in light of the very low percentage of controlled drug prescription prescribed by veterinarians.

1/14/2020 9:50 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It would be very easy for a drug seeker to circumvent this system. Date of birth is not a unique identifier for pets as many pets come from rescue organizations and have no known date of birth. The date of birth is usually an arbitrary number chosen by the owner or veterinary staff at the first visit. There is nothing stopping a pet owner from presenting to multiple clinics and giving different names and dates of birth in order to obtain more controlled substances. Using the owner's date of birth was in violation of HIPAA laws. Requiring pets to be micro chipped would solve this problem, but I do not feel it is fair to require pet owners to pay for a microchip in order for us to alleviate their pet's pain. While I have suspected a very small number of clients who abuse their pet's medications, these have not been caught by using the PDMP. The PDMP is time consuming for veterinarians and is not beneficial to our patients or clients.

1/14/2020 9:20 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Veterinarians are not the main diversion source of narcotics. Animals do not have SS numbers or unique identifiers. The database is not accurate for our patients with varying names and dates of birth at different facilities.

1/14/2020 9:14 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The whole idea is very unclear as to how it works, goals, who it applies to and why, and what is supposed to be reported if at all.

1/14/2020 8:41 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The statistics show the veterinary community is not a major factor in this problem, we should not have access to our clients personal information and PDMP program cannot even identify gross abuses of the system the way it is set up.

1/14/2020 8:29 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Seems unnecessary based on the very few opioids we prescribe.

1/14/2020 8:12 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I feel our use is insignificant compared to that of MDs

1/14/2020 7:25 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Completely useless for veterinary purposes with no identifiers for animals (dob , Ssn)

1/14/2020 7:24 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

As much as I respect the value of knowing all the sources disreputable sources can access, I don't believe the veterinary world is a big enough source to contribute. If is not exempt, it needs to be greatly improved to make it easier for the veterinarian world to utilize. Right now it is a HUGE exercise in frustration.

1/14/2020 6:53 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It seems quite unnecessary, The only drug I prescribe that is effected is tramadol which I have decided to rx from a pharmacy because of the burdensome paperwork that I would have to do if I were to stock it and dispense it. I don't think that drug is very abused so it seems to make no sense to not be able to connect my patients more readily with the drug rather than have to rx it through a pharmacy

1/14/2020 5:56 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

This is one of the most disjointed and ill thought out wastes of time, effort and resources ever. It is also an egregious violation of HIPAA. Veterinarians are not trained, qualified nor included in HIPPA, nor are the clerks and IT workers at the Department of Commerce. To charge veterinarians to be a part of PDMP is further insult and only a small part of additional costs to clients and business. Please end this ridiculousness.

1/14/2020 5:49 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

As a mobile large animal veterinarian who administers, but virtually never dispenses, PDMP regulations are completely illogical and generally unreasonable. I do not believe that whoever created this plan thought for one second how it could be reasonably incorporated by a rural large animal vet. In my situation the PDMP is a burden and does absolutely nothing to reduce controlled drug issues in humans.

1/14/2020 5:45 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The pdmp does not work for veterinarians. It is designed for people patients, not animal patients. It puts veterinarians at risk when we are required to access confidential client information. Pharmacists can not adequately compare human and animal dosages. In fact, pharmacists do not know animal dosages. How can they compare morphine equivalent units for a human vs a horse? I understand the importance of the pdmp and controlling opioid addiction. This is not the proper program for veterinary patients.

1/14/2020 5:44 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The process is time consuming and does not have clear guidelines. I am unsure what needs to be registered and what does not. It seems odd to be tracking the prescription by the animal when we are concerned about human abuse. Maybe we should collect the owner's information as well.

1/14/2020 5:40 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

This is a cumbersome difficult system to use that rejects half of our submissions and hasn't helped with any decisions.

1/14/2020 5:16 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The PDMP is not a universal solution for monitoring all professions

1/14/2020 4:47 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

For small business this is extremely time consuming. It is difficult that it must only be done by the practioner. There are a lot of unanswered questions like how will this stop humans from using their pet's medication? Those that abuse will abuse, we can not stop that, but it is not fair to those that don't and we as practioners can not help our patients due to limitations. What happened to do no harm?

1/14/2020 4:21 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I feel like the program, while slightly time-consuming, has been good overall. It has helped my practitioners think a little harder about the medications dispensed and which ones to order at a pharmacy with the quantities. I think it is good to think about it more to prevent abuse of medications. Veterinarians do not want to be responsible for making a problem identified in human medicine even worse, especially in Alaska, which has very high rates of drug abuse already.

1/14/2020 4:17 PM

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It is an over-step/reach into human medicine to require veterinarians to participate in this program. Veterinarians are not licensed to make judgement calls on human health issues unless it related to zoonotic disease transmission, which this clearly does not. The system is not set up to include an doctor-client-patient relationship, will violate human confidentiality laws, and in effect have veterinarians practicing human medicine without a license when it comes to making judgement calls about human medications and behavior.

1/14/2020 4:14 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Veterinarians should be exempt because our patients are not people.

1/14/2020 4:02 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I do not feel it is helping with the opioid crisis in any way.

1/14/2020 3:50 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The amount of controlled drugs we use and the type that are prescribed is so low and insignificant compared to that human physicians use. I understand the crisis that faces American health care. This does not involve veterinarians please don't penalize us.

1/14/2020 3:41 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I work for UAF and am not working in private practice. However, I like a few other veterinarians in public practice, still have to enroll. I support exempting all Alaska veterinarians from the PDMP.

1/14/2020 3:23 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

We do prescribe very small numbers/amounts of controlled drugs (and typically not the hot-button Rx opioids), but despite the hassle I do believe that all prescribers should be part of any such program.

1/14/2020 3:21 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

It was a good idea in theory, but in practice it is difficult to navigate and easily become out of compliance.

1/14/2020 3:00 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

In addition to the above, the PDMP places an additional burden on veterinarians with regards to the time involved in tracking prescriptions, then creating reports. Additionally the PDMP is designed around humans receiving medications, not animals. A drug-seeking owner can take their dog to a different clinic under a different name-trying to track this is next to impossible.

1/14/2020 2:56 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

The program is not user friendly and takes up way too much time to go in and upload the controlled drugs sent out.
1/14/2020 2:52 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Addiction issues in people should not place limits on a veterinarian's ability to manage pain in animals. Veterinarians should not be forced to use a program that does not work with their software so it requires manual daily processing. The controlled drug prescribing rules are not applicable to animals.
1/14/2020 2:51 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Do to current requirements, animal patients are rarely sent home with schedule drugs even when indicated to relieve pain.
1/14/2020 2:50 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

I would like more clear direction from the State about what the requirements are and for veterinarians to be exempt from having to pay for their own registration.
1/14/2020 2:49 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Veterinarians are not routinely HIPAA trained. Forcing us to access HIPAA-restricted information is a violation of our clients' privacy.
1/14/2020 2:46 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

While as a veterinarian, I am concerned with human opiate public health issues, the PDMP is neither a productive nor proper avenue for veterinarians' role in our community wellbeing.
1/14/2020 7:23 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼

Why are we forced to violate Hippa.
1/13/2020 5:50 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#) ▼