

DID YOU KNOW?

- Prescription drug abuse is America's fastest growing drug problem: prescription drugs are involved in more overdose deaths than heroin and cocaine combined.²
- Nationally, approximately 15,000 people die every year of overdoses involving prescription painkillers. That's nearly one person every 19 minutes.²
- Enough prescription painkillers were prescribed in 2010 to medicate every American adult around the clock for a month.²
- In Wisconsin, 5.5 million prescriptions were dispensed each month in 2009.²
- Between 2007 and 2008, 15% of Wisconsin adults reported using pain relievers for non-medical purposes, and prescription drugs are now the most common drug used for recreational purposes after marijuana.²



WISCONSIN PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

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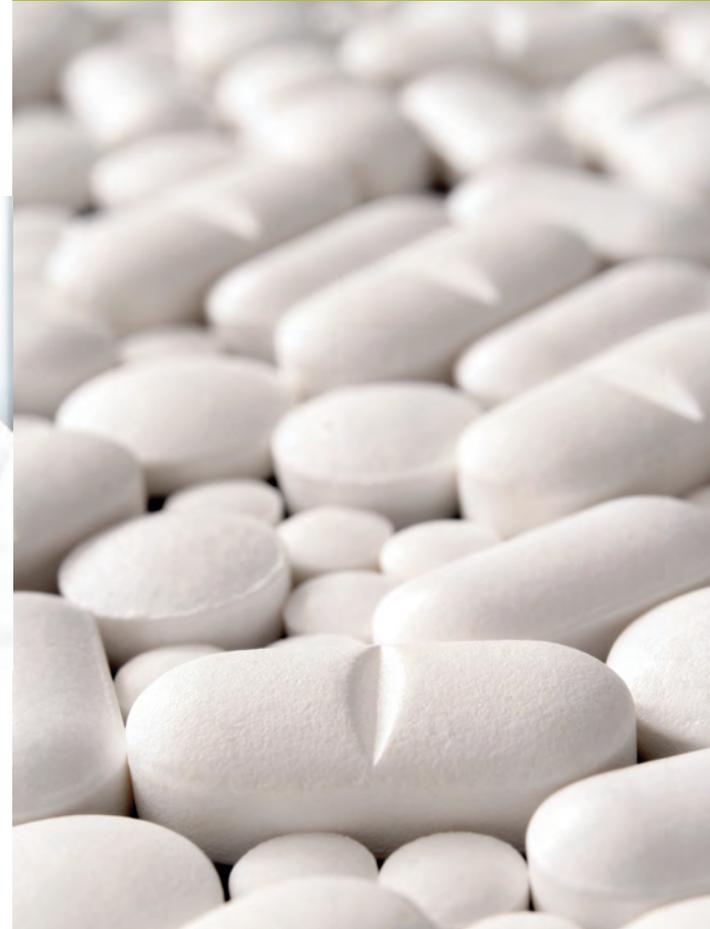
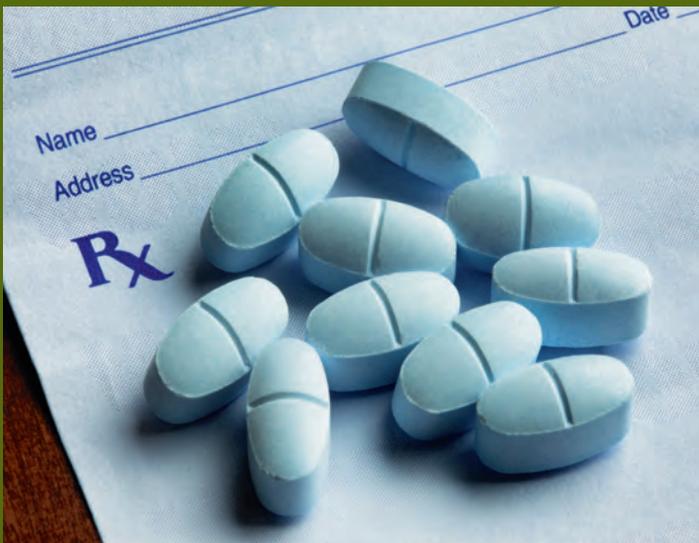
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WI PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

AN INTRODUCTION FOR PATIENTS



¹The Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a privacy rule that protects the privacy of individuals' health information.

²Statistical Data Sources: Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Committee- Controlled Substances Workgroup, Reducing Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Abuse: A Call to Action, Jan. 2012; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Policy Impact: Prescription Painkiller Overdoses, Nov. 2011

WHAT IS THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM (PDMP)?

The PDMP is a secure database that stores information about certain prescription drugs dispensed to patients in Wisconsin. Healthcare professionals can review their patients' prescription histories before prescribing or dispensing drugs. Use of PDMP information can improve patient care and safety by preventing the abuse and misuse of prescription drugs while ensuring patients receive the medical care they need.

ARE ALL PRESCRIPTION DRUGS MONITORED?

No. The PDMP monitors certain controlled substances and other drugs identified by the Pharmacy Examining Board as having a substantial potential for abuse. Controlled substances are drugs that are regulated by federal and state law because they are addictive and susceptible to abuse and misuse. They include certain tranquilizers, stimulants, and pain relievers.

IS INFORMATION STORED BY THE PDMP SECURE AND CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. The PDMP database is secure, and the information stored by the PDMP is protected health information under the HIPAA¹ "Privacy Rule" and confidential under state law. Information is only disclosed to healthcare professionals and other authorized individuals who provide evidence that they are legally authorized to obtain the information.



WILL THE PDMP MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR ME TO OBTAIN THE MEDICATIONS I NEED?

The PDMP should not make it more difficult for you to receive the medications you need for legitimate medical use. The PDMP is a tool healthcare professionals can use to ensure their patients are given appropriate medical care.

CAN I OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT MYSELF FROM THE PDMP?

Yes. In order to obtain information about yourself from the PDMP database, you must appear in person at the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services. You may also authorize a delegate to obtain PDMP information on your behalf as long as the delegate appears in person and provides evidence of your authorization.

WHY IS THE PDMP IMPORTANT?

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in America. The development and use of PDMPs is an important part of the solution to the national prescription drug abuse epidemic.

WHAT INFORMATION DOES THE PDMP COLLECT?

The PDMP collects specific information about the dispensing practitioner or pharmacy, the prescriber, the patient, and the drug. Information collected about the patient includes name, gender, address, and date of birth.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I BELIEVE INFORMATION ABOUT ME STORED BY THE PDMP IS INCORRECT?

If you believe that the information about you is incorrect, notify the pharmacy or practitioner that submitted the data to the PDMP and request that he or she correct the error. Only the dispenser that submitted the information can correct the error.

DO OTHER STATES HAVE PDMPs?

Yes. Wisconsin is one of forty-nine states that either have an operational program or are in the process of creating one. All four of our border states have operational programs.