

BENEFITS OF VIRGINIA'S PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM

WHO

- Virginia's Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) is used by prescribers and pharmacists to better inform their treatment and dispensing decisions.
- In 2015, nearly 5 million inquiries were made to the PMP by users of the system.

WHY

- PMP helps prescribers and pharmacists make safe prescribing and dispensing decisions for more than 8 million Virginians.
- Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) daily dose ratings have been added to PMP reports to identify patients at risk for overdose.
- PMP database provides prescribers with quantitative data to monitor patient compliance with their treatment plan.
- PMP is a tool used to reduce the illicit use of controlled substances.

WHAT

- PMP is a patient management tool available to prescribers and pharmacists who write or fill prescriptions for schedule II - IV drugs. Accessible 24/7, the software provides complete controlled substance dispensing histories.
- PMP prescription information is available to other authorized users of the database who assist with disciplinary investigations conducted by health regulatory boards and, when appropriate, law enforcement entities.

HOW

- PMP is a member of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Prescription Monitoring Interconnect Program (PMPi). This network allows practitioners to share prescription information across state lines. As of July 2016 Virginia's PMP is connected with 22 other state PMPs, including the District of Columbia and border states Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia and Maryland.
- PMP is presently integrated into the work flow of pharmacists at one national pharmacy chain, and work is underway in collaboration with several health systems to integrate PMP data into their Electronic Medical Records.
- Changes in law allow pharmacists and prescribers to select and authorize delegates from their practice to retrieve patient information from the PMP database on their behalf.

RESULTS

- PMP automatically registers all pharmacists and prescribers licensed in Virginia.
- Over the last four years, Virginia has experienced a substantial decrease in "doctor-shopping" indicators.
- PMP has become a major resource for prescription data used to inform public policy decisions toward safeguarding the health and wellbeing of all Virginians.