



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.  
Director

*Department of Health Professions*

Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov  
TEL (804) 367- 4400  
FAX (804) 527- 4475

### **Virginia Department of Health Professions Bayview Physicians Group**

Contact: Diane Powers 804-367-4524

Contact: Jeffery Elmore 757-686-3500

Email: [Diane.Powers@DHP.Virginia.Gov](mailto:Diane.Powers@DHP.Virginia.Gov)

Email: [jeffery.elmore@bayviewphysicians.com](mailto:jeffery.elmore@bayviewphysicians.com)

### **Appriss Health**

Contact: David Griffin 502-815-3880

Email: [dgriffin@apprisshealth.com](mailto:dgriffin@apprisshealth.com)

### **Virginia's First Healthcare System Opt's into Appriss Health's NarxCare Platform** Patients Benefit When Prescribers Save Time in the Fight Against Prescription and Opioid Abuse

RICHMOND—In the fight against prescription drug abuse and opioid addiction, prescribers at Tidewater's Bayview Physicians Group and their patients are among the first beneficiaries of NarxCare by Appriss Health offered by Virginia's Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). In just seconds, this digital system integrates a patient's prescription history into the work flow of their provider to optimize treatment.

In January, Governor McAuliffe announced the \$3.1 million grant from Purdue Pharma to stand up the NarxCare bridge between electronic health records systems and the PMP for use by practitioners when prescribing or dispensing controlled substances. PMP is a program of the Virginia Department of Health Professions (DHP).

DHP Director, David Brown, DC today says, "It is noteworthy that a physician's group the size of Bayview was able to opt into NarxCare in less than 90 days. It is our hope that both small and large healthcare systems will quickly follow suit to help safeguard 8 million Virginians against the opioid epidemic by making sure the prescribing history of patients is taken into account."

According to PMP Director Ralph Orr, "By 2018, PMP NarxCare is expected to improve the performance, access and usability of PMP data for 18,000 prescribers and 400 pharmacies in the Commonwealth. As a result, in the coming years, Virginia should anticipate a drop in prescription drug overdose deaths."

Bayview Director of Information Systems, Jeff Elmore reports, "NarxCare is not only ensuring proper prescribing but is already saving our providers minutes per patient. Compounded, that is a lot of found time now available to see additional people."

Also, in a move to improve use of PMP data among its physicians and pharmacists, Sentara Healthcare has announced adoption of a similar system.



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The Prescription Monitoring Program, a secure and confidential database maintained under law by the Department of Health Professions (DHP), is a repository of Schedule II – IV drugs prescribed for the use of authorized personnel responsible for making treatment decisions.

The Virginia Department of Health Professions' mission is to ensure safe and competent patient care by licensing health professionals, enforcing standards of practice, and providing information to health care practitioners and the public.

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