

# Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

## Basic Facts

- Approximately 7,000,000 prescription records are uploaded into the PDMP system annually.
- Greater than 99 percent of pharmacies required to participate are reporting.
- More than 8,200 practitioners and pharmacists have PDMP accounts.
- In 2013, more than 621,000 queries were made by practitioners and pharmacists.
- 78 percent of the prescriptions in the PDMP are prescribed by a cohort of 4,000 practitioners; 67 percent of these prescribers have PDMP accounts.
- Opioids account for 54 percent of the prescriptions in the PDMP data system.
- Opioids are the class of medication that has the highest potential for overdose, misuse, dependence, and abuse.
- Benzodiazepines are the second-most-often-prescribed class of medication in the PDMP data system.
- Opioids combined with benzodiazepines increase the risk of overdose.

### What is the PDMP?

The Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is a Web-based data system that contains information on controlled substance prescription medications dispensed by Oregon-licensed retail pharmacies. The PDMP became operational on September 1, 2011; pharmacies began reporting data on June 1, 2011. Oregon law requires pharmacies to submit data weekly for all Schedule II – IV controlled substances dispensed. Controlled substances reported include opioids, benzodiazepines, sedative hypnotics, stimulants, and other drugs. PDMP legislation was passed in 2009 and amended in 2013.

### What is its purpose?

The PDMP is a tool practitioners and pharmacists can use to improve patient safety and health outcomes. Patients who use these medications are at risk for: overdose, side effects and increased effect when combined with alcohol and/or other drugs, risk for physical dependence, and risk for developing patterns of drug abuse. The PDMP provides practitioners and pharmacists a means to identify and assess these problems.

### How does it work?

Authorized system users can logon to the PDMP Web-based system and request a report of the controlled substance medications dispensed to their patients. The patient report is a line list of prescriptions dispensed. Prescription records include information on the dispenser, prescriber, and drug (i.e. name, quantity, days supplied, and refill information).

### Who can access PDMP information?

Access to PDMP information is regulated by law—ORS 431.966. Entities that can access system information once authorized include: Oregon-licensed practitioners and pharmacists and their delegated and authorized office staff, licensed and authorized practitioners in bordering states, and the State Medical

Examiner and designees. Other entities may submit request forms to obtain a PDMP report. Other entities include patients, health care regulatory boards, and law enforcement agencies. In addition to the prescription record, patient reports include a list of anyone who queried a patient's information to ensure proper access. Law enforcement requests must be pursuant to a valid court order. Executive directors of health care boards must certify the request is part of an active investigation.

### How is patient privacy protected?

PDMP patient information is protected by law—ORS 431.966.

Top 12 Prescriptions, JUN 2011—SEPT 2014		
Drug	Number of Rx*	% of all Rx
Hydrocodone	6,098,70	27.5%
Oxycodone	3,684,53	16.6%
Zolpidem	1,629,69	7.4%
Lorazepam	1,356,99	6.1%
Alprazolam	1,199,65	5.4%
Clonazepam	1,060,81	4.8%
Amphet ASP/ AMPHET/ D- AMPHET	834,090	3.8%
Morphine	750,332	3.4%
Methylphenidate	738,005	3.3%
Diazepam	587,039	2.6%
Methadone	385,765	1.7%
Acetaminophen with Codeine	332,710	1.5%

\*Prescriptions

**For more information:**  
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