The Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement: Mission, Overview, & Initiatives

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Health Care Compliance Association

The Bureau

1850’s Bureau of Habit Forming Drugs
1919 Department of Narcotic Drug Control
1933 Bureau of Narcotic Control
1972 Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement
1985 Bureau of Controlled Substances
2004 Bureau Of Narcotic Enforcement
The Mission

• 1. To combat illegal use of and trade in controlled substances

• 2. To allow legitimate use of controlled substances in health care, including palliative care; . . . and other uses authorized by this article or other law . . .

Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement – Responsibilities:

1. Prevent Diversion Through Investigation & Enforcement

2. Data Collection, Analysis, & Reporting -- PMP

3. Licensing/Regulation/Help Desk

4. Medical Marijuana Program

5. Policy Initiatives, Outreach, Education
WHO DIVERTS?

All facets of society; prescription drug abuse knows no social or economic boundaries.

Rule of thumb: All you need is a prescription or know someone with one.

It’s estimated that more than 100,000 physicians, nurses, techs and other healthcare employees are drug addicts, according to federal data. Studies estimate that 1 in 10 healthcare workers have suffered from substance abuse during their lives.

Source: Outpatient Surgery News and Trends > General Surgical News and Reports Published: April 16, 2014

DIVERSION/THEFT

Healthcare facilities e.g. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Long term care etc.

- Waste
- Sharps Containers
- Substitution; pills, patches and solutions
- False orders
- Removal of Fentanyl patches
- Theft of blank prescriptions
- Automated Dispensing Systems (ADS)
- Drug Destructions
CRIME ASSOCIATED WITH PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Pharmacies
- Robberies
- Burglaries
  - Forged Prescriptions/Telephone RX’s (MD Impersonation)
  - Employee Pilferage
  - Sign and Go Deliveries/Pickups
  - Computer Crimes

Provider’s Offices
- Burglaries
- Blank Prescription Thefts
- Telephone Scripts
- Identity Thefts
- Computer Crimes
CRIME ASSOCIATED WITH PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Residences
- Burglaries
- Rummage Sales/Open Houses
- Home Care Aides, Hospice
- Residences

Manufacturers/Distributor's
- Transit; Contract deliveries thefts
- Employee Pilferage
- Sign and Go Deliveries/Pickups

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

PDMPs are a valuable tool in successfully conducting these prescription drug diversion investigations.

They have assisted law enforcement for years in pursuing investigation of issues ranging from doctor-shopper and pill-mill cases to more complex investigations of organized crime rings.
Other Uses of PMP Data

- Inform prescribers and pharmacists of patient’s recent controlled substance prescription activity via the PMP Registry;
- Decrease multiple-provider episodes (Dr. shoppers);
- Present aggregate data to inform public health initiatives.

History of the Prescription Monitoring Program Registry (PMP)

- 1972 - pharmacies required to report dispensed controlled substance prescription information - Schedule II drugs only
- June, 2005 - pharmacies required to report dispensed controlled substances prescription records - Schedules II-V - monthly
- April, 2006 - all prescriptions required to be written on the New York State serialized and forge-proof Official Prescription Form (with limited exceptions). Basis for data collected for inclusion on the PMP registry
- February, 2010 - On-Line PMP is available to prescribers
- August 27, 2013 – The updated PMP goes live
  - Pharmacies and dispensing practitioners required to report all controlled substance prescription data daily
  - Prescribers are required to access the PMP prior to writing a controlled substance prescription
  - Pharmacists are allowed to view the PMP Registry prior to dispensing a controlled substance prescription
- March, 2016 – The e-prescribing mandate in effect
Early PMP Usage

• In February 2010, BNE implemented a PMP that provided secure, online access to patients’ recent controlled substance prescription histories.

• Available to practitioners only, 24 hours a day/7 days a week and was underused.

Prescription Drug Reform Act 2012

• I-STOP
• Electronic Prescribing Mandate
• Controlled Substance Schedule Changes
• Safe Disposal Program
## Changes in Prescribing Behavior

Comparison of opioid prescribing during the year prior to mandated PMP use and year post implementation:

- **8.72%** decrease in total prescriptions;
- **10.4%** decrease in patients with a prescription;
- **10.3%** decrease in total quantity dispensed;
- Largest decreases in prescriptions were codeine 5 (-24%), hydrocodone (-17.7%) and codeine 3 (-14.3%);
- Increases in prescriptions for fentanyl (3.5%), morphine (2.2%) and oxycodone (0.2%).

### Changes in Prescribing Behavior

#### Hydrocodone
- 17.7% decrease in prescriptions;
- 16.3% decrease in patients with a prescription;
- 16.44% decrease in total doses dispensed.

#### Oxycodone
- 0.2% increase in prescriptions;
- 1.6% increase in patients with a prescription;
- 2.98% decrease in total doses dispensed.
PMP Utilization

- 2/16/2010 through 8/26/13
  - 19,000 users performed 950,000 searches for 202,714 patients

- 8/27/13 through 3/28/17
  - 102,670 unique users performed over 63.2 million searches for over 13.3 million unique patients
  - 18,365,222 searches occurred in 2016 alone
  - Over 47 searches have been handled per second

PDMP Data

- Be aware of the associated legal processes and access guidelines necessary to obtain such information.
  - Subpoenas
  - Demand Letters
  - Requests
PDMP Data

- **Patient Report**—A list of controlled substance prescriptions issued and dispensed to a patient.
- **Prescriber or Dispenser Report**—A list showing the controlled substance prescribing/dispensing history of a selected prescriber or dispenser being investigated.
- **Geographical Report**—An area or state map with points plotted for the distances a patient travels to obtain prescriptions OR “hot spots” for different prescription activities.

E-Rx: By the Numbers

- NY accounted for 13,276,656 of the 116,597,067 new electronic prescriptions in the nation or over 11%.
- In September 2016, EPCS in NY accounted for almost half of the EPCS in the nation.
- NY leads the nation in the number of prescriptions that are electronically prescribed.
Doctor Shopping Incidents Down

- 1Q 2016: Doctor-shopping incidents down about 90% from 8/27/13 -- when checking the PMP became mandatory for all controlled substance prescriptions.
- 2Q 2016 (First full quarter of e-prescribing): Doctor-shopping incidents down 98%. Sustained through 4Q 2016.

The NYS PMP: Looking Ahead

- Interoperable with 14 States & D.C: CT, IN, MA, MN, ND, NH, NJ, OH, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, Washington, D.C. and WV; adding more all the time.
- Now displaying 12 months patient history.
- Date dispensed= date sold, not date filled.
- Adding MME display.
Opioid-related Data in New York State

https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/

- Opioid overdose information: deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and hospitalizations by county in quarterly reports
- Prevalence of illicit drug use and the use of nonmedical pain relievers
- County data in table, graph and map formats

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