

# ***IMPORTANT Information Regarding***

## **Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**

### **Latest Legal Requirements for Pharmacists and Prescribers**

The Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is an important part of Maryland's response to the ***epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths***. It was created to support providers and their patients in the safe and effective use of prescription drugs. The law states:

**Providers must not only REGISTER with PDMP but also ACCESS data starting July 1, 2018**

#### **Maryland PDMP Facts**

- Authorized by law in 2011
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH) program
- Contains data on Rx controlled dangerous substances (CDS) dispensed to patients in Maryland
- Providers get free, online access through Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP) at: [www.crisphealth.org](http://www.crisphealth.org)

#### **What is CRISP?**

- State-designated health information exchange (HIE) serving Maryland and the District of Columbia.
- Electronic system connecting all 46 acute care hospitals in Maryland
- Web-based portal gives providers secure access to patient PDMP, hospital and other clinical data



### **Legal Changes Affecting Providers**

On April 26, 2016, Governor Hogan signed into law HB 437 which includes the following legal changes:

#### **1. Mandatory PDMP Registration for CDS Prescribers & Pharmacists**

**Pharmacists:** Licensed pharmacists in Maryland must be registered with the PDMP by **July 1, 2017**.

**Prescribers:** Practitioners authorized to prescribe CDS in Maryland must be registered with the PDMP by **July 1, 2017**. *This applies to physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, dentists, podiatrists and veterinarians. This mandate does not apply to the following categories of nurses: RNs, CNAs, and LPNs.*

**Please note:** Effective February 15, 2018, a second provision in the law will require PDMP registration prior to obtaining a new or renewal CDS prescribing permit from the Office of Controlled Substances Administration (formerly Division of Drug Control).



**REGISTER NOW** with the PDMP through CRISP at [www.crisphealth.org](http://www.crisphealth.org). Look for the PDMP 'Register' button on the homepage or on the PDMP Services page.

**For registration help, call CRISP Support at: 1-877-952-7477.**

## ***2. Mandatory PDMP Use by CDS Prescribers & Pharmacists***

Beginning **July 1, 2018:**

- **Prescribers must**, with some exceptions, query and review their patient's PDMP data prior to initially prescribing an opioid or benzodiazepine **AND** at least every 90 days thereafter as long as the course of treatment continues to include prescribing an opioid or benzodiazepine. Prescribers must also document PDMP data query and review in the patient's medical record.
- **Pharmacists must** query and review patient PDMP data prior to dispensing **ANY** CDS drug if they have a reasonable belief that a patient is seeking the drug for any purpose other than the treatment of an existing medical condition.

Information regarding Mandatory Use is available on the MDH PDMP website. MDH will provide additional information and reminders closer to but before the implementation date.

## ***3. CDS Prescribers & Pharmacists May Delegate PDMP Data Access***

Prescribers and pharmacists may delegate healthcare staff to obtain CRISP user accounts and query PDMP data on their behalf. Delegates may include both licensed practitioners without prescriptive authority and non-licensed clinical staff that are employed by, or under contract with, the same professional practice or facility where the prescriber or pharmacist practices.

### ***To Learn More***

Visit the **MDH PDMP website** for updated information, important compliance dates and Frequently Asked Questions: <http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/PDMP>.

For more information about the opioid addiction and overdose epidemic in Maryland and what healthcare providers can do to help, visit [http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE\\_PREVENTION/](http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE_PREVENTION/).