

California Department of Justice

CURES

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

February, 2013



The mission of the California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is to eliminate pharmaceutical drug diversion in the state while promoting legitimate medical practice and quality patient care.



Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System



1939

The California Triplicate Prescription Program (TPP) was created in 1939, capturing Schedule II prescription information.

1997

CURES was initiated, operating in parallel with the TPP's Automated Triplicate Prescription System (ATPS) to evaluate the comparative efficiencies between the two systems.

1999

CURES replaced the TPP/ATPS and began capturing Schedules II through IV prescription information.

2005

TPP/ATPS decommissioned after Senate Bill (SB) 151 eliminated the triplicate prescription requirement for Schedule II controlled substances, making CURES permanent.

2009

PDMP introduced as a searchable, client-facing component of CURES.



Relevant Provisions of Law

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
& Attendant Regulations

42 U.S.C. §§ 1320d to 1320d-8, and 45 CFR 164, et seq.

California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act
CA Civil Code §§ 56 to 56.16

California Information Practices Act
CA Civil Code § 1798, et seq.

CURES Legislation
CA Health and Safety Code § 11165, et seq.



Statutory Authority

California Health and Safety Code Section § 11165.1 (a) (1)

A **licensed health care practitioner** eligible to prescribe Schedules II through IV controlled substances **or a pharmacist** may provide a notarized application . . . to access information stored on the Internet regarding the controlled substance history of a patient maintained within the Department of Justice, and the Department may release to that practitioner or pharmacist, the electronic history of controlled substances dispensed to an individual under his or her care based on data contained in the CURES Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.



Statutory Authority

California Health and Safety Code Section § 11165 (a)

To assist law enforcement and regulatory agencies in their efforts to control the diversion and resultant abuse of Schedule II, Schedule III, and Schedule IV controlled substances...the Department of Justice shall...maintain the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) for the electronic monitoring of, and Internet access to information regarding, the prescribing and dispensing of Schedule II, Schedule III, and Schedule IV controlled substances by all practitioners authorized to prescribe or dispense these controlled substances.



Statutory Authority

California Health and Safety Code Section § 11165 (d)

For each prescription for a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance, as defined in the controlled substances schedules in federal law and regulations, specifically Sections 1308.12, 1308.13, and 1308.14, respectively, of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the dispensing pharmacy or clinic shall provide the . . . information to the Department of Justice on a weekly basis and in a format specified by the Department of Justice: . . .



Statutory Authority

California Health and Safety Code Section § 11165 (c)

CURES shall operate under existing provisions of law to safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of patients. Data obtained from CURES shall only be provided to appropriate state, local, and federal persons or public agencies for disciplinary, civil, or criminal purposes and to other agencies or entities, as determined by the Department of Justice, for the purpose of educating practitioners and others in lieu of disciplinary, civil, or criminal actions.



Statutory Authority

California Health and Safety Code Section § 11165 (c) [Continued]

Data may be provided to public or private entities, as approved by the Department of Justice, for educational, peer review, statistical, or research purposes, provided that patient information, including any information that may identify the patient, is not compromised. Further, data disclosed to any individual or agency as described in this subdivision shall not be disclosed, sold, or transferred to any third party.



Current System

- CURES stores and reports Schedule II, III and IV prescription dispensation data reported by dispensers to DOJ.
- Pharmacists are required to report dispensations of Schedules II through IV controlled substances at least weekly.
- In order to reflect exactly what dispensers report to DOJ, the department does not touch or modify dispenser-reported data.
- Presently, the database contains over 100 million entries of controlled substance drugs that have been dispensed in California.



Current System

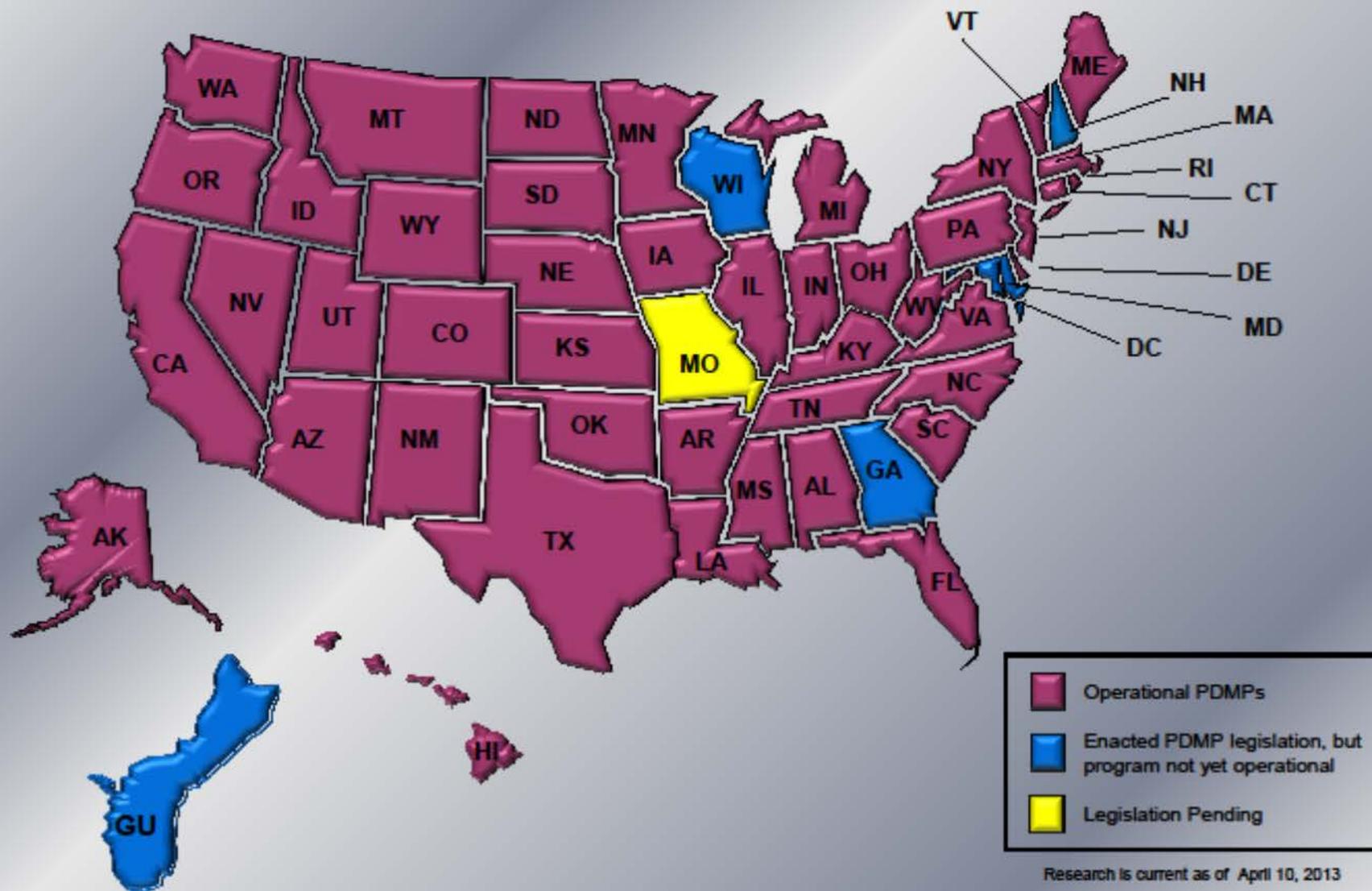
- Use of the PDMP by prescribers and dispensers for prescription abuse prevention/intervention is *voluntarily*.
- In FY 11/12, the program responded to 1,063,952 requests.
- Provides registered prescribers and dispensers with 12-month Patient Activity Reports (PAR).
- CURES/PDMP information can assist health practitioners identify, intervene, and deter abuse and diversion of Schedule II through IV controlled substances.



PDMP Training & Technical Assistance Center

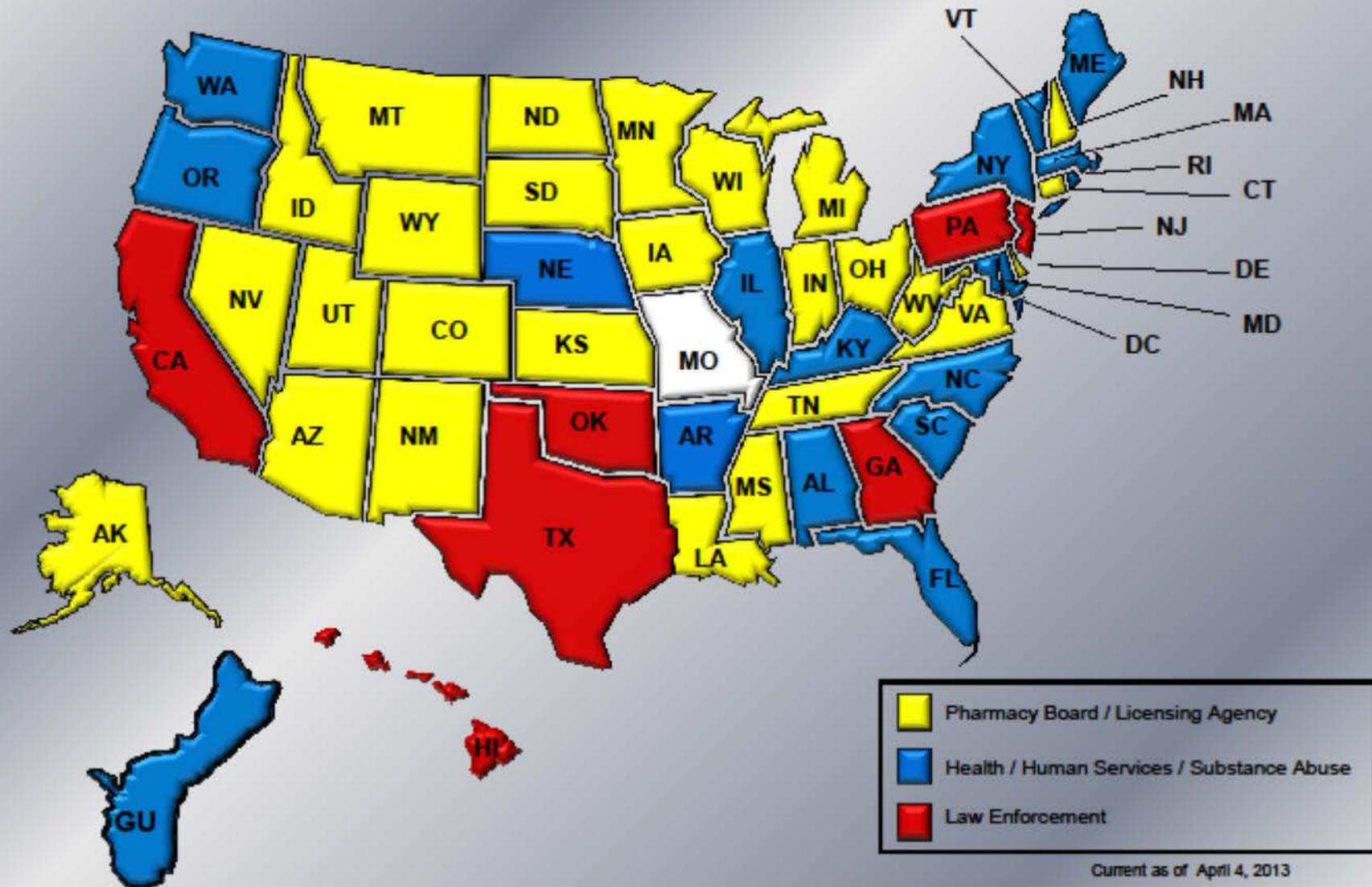
Status of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)

* To view PDMP Contact information, hover the mouse pointer over the state abbreviation



PDMP Training & Technical Assistance Center

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Agency Types





| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Dentists | 37,494 |
| Medical Physicians | 128,697 |
| Optometrists | 4,939 |
| Osteopathic Physicians | 6,376 |
| Physician Assistants | 8,520 |
| Podiatrists | 1,918 |
| Registered Nurse | |
| Midwives (Furnishing) | 778 |
| Registered Nurse | |
| Practitioners (Furnishing) | 12,125 |
| Veterinarians | 10,985 |
| Prescribers | 174,338 |
| Pharmacists | 38,293 |
| TOTAL | 212,631 |

PDMP Registrants **17,508**
(as of 8/13/13)



8.23%





Perspective

Medication Reconciliation for Controlled Substances — An “Ideal” Prescription-Drug Monitoring Program

Jeanette H. Parke, M.D., and Lewis S. Vaseco, M.D.
N Engl J Med 2013; 368:2044-2049. June 21, 2013 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1204493

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Article

The United States is in the midst of an epidemic of misuse of prescription opioids and related deaths. Between 1997 and 2007, the use of prescription opioids more than quadrupled,¹ and it has become clear that the risk of chronic overdose is correlated with the quantity of these drugs being prescribed.² This liberalization of opioid prescribing can be attributed to a heightened focus on pain management, reflected in such developments as a Joint Commission mandate that pain be assessed as a “vital sign,”³ the use of pain scores to measure patient satisfaction, and an extension of the indicators for long-term opioid treatment to include chronic (or cancer-related) pain. In this new model, physicians, dentists, and nurse practitioners — rather than drug cartels and street dealers — play prominent roles in escalating drug use. Paradoxically, there are simultaneous pressures to increase opioid prescribing for the benefit of individual patients and to reduce it for the sake of public health. As health care providers attempting to balance these mandates, we must advocate for more informed prescribing.

Since 1993, federal legislation has supported the formation of state-based prescription-drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) to track prescribing of controlled substances. In the pre-Internet era, such programs had limited effects, owing to the lag time inherent in reporting with paper documents; on the absence of off-hours access to the programs; and the voluntary nature of reporting. Now, these programs are benefiting from renewed interest and increased funding: 42 states currently have operational PDMPs, and 6 have enacted legislation to develop programs.⁴

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration suggest that state-based PDMPs should be expanded.⁵ Yet many clinicians are unaware of these programs, and the use varies among states and specialties.⁶ Research examining the effect of these monitoring systems has been limited by the variations and evolution of states' PDMP designs. As states develop, expand, or rotate their PDMPs, it is worthwhile to analyze the current thinking regarding the usefulness and successful characteristics of the existing programs so as to enhance the future impact (see table).

Clinical evaluation of a new patient with chronic pain can be difficult without a comprehensive pain-management record. Although relying solely on the patient's history is generally acceptable and well intentioned, it may lead to congenitously misprescribing. Furthermore, primary care providers who embrace the mandates to treat patients' chronic pain are faced with guidelines suggesting the use of patient-provider agreements (“pain contracts”) and urine drug screening. Some physicians may feel uncomfortable with the mistrust implied by such confrontational approaches and may find that a highly functional PDMP readily alerts clinicians to signs of aberrant drug-documentation behavior. A benefit for clinicians and patients is the opportunity to intervene immediately when aberrant behavior is first noted and while the patient is in the medical setting. In addition, a PDMP may identify patients who are receiving multiple legitimate prescriptions for opioids or benzodiazepines and are at risk for complications from polypharmacy.

Web-based PDMPs solve many of the problems that limited earlier, fax-based systems, but they also raise new concerns. In a recent survey of prescribers, researchers cited barriers to use of PDMPs that included “time” and “access issues” but not computer availability (see graph). To facilitate access, a simple log-on with user-specific passwords may



Characteristics of an ideal state-based Drug Monitoring Program



Drs. Perrone and Nelson noted barriers to today's PDMPs include:

- Time and access issues.
- Complicated application and notarization procedures
- Prescribers will have to be educated about PDMPs if voluntary compliance is to be improved and routine use encouraged.



- CURES staff can assist prescribers and dispensers with the registration process by personally accepting applications directly from individual prescribers and dispensers in lieu of the notarization requirement for groups of ≥ 20 .
- CURES staff can also provide CURES informational presentations and answer questions concerning the CURES program.



The registration process is initiated electronically via a web-based application form.

[HTTP://OAG.CA.GOV/CURES-PDMP](http://oag.ca.gov/cures-pdmp)

State of California Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General

Kamala D. Harris
Attorney General

AG Home Page PDMP Application Register Forgot Password Login Help

Tools & Resources

- BNE Locations
- Guidelines to Combating Rx Drug Abuse & Fraud
- Health Information Privacy (HIPAA Guidelines)
- FAQ's

PDMP Registration Version 1.0.0.9

California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

The California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), CURES, is committed to assisting in the reduction of pharmaceutical drug diversion without affecting legitimate medical practice and patient care.

The CURES system is designed to identify and deter drug abuse and diversion through accurate and rapid tracking of Schedule II through IV controlled substances. It is a valuable investigative, preventive and educational tool for law enforcement, regulatory boards, educational researchers, and the healthcare community.

The Department of Justice PDMP system allows pre-registered users including licensed healthcare prescribers, pharmacists authorized to dispense controlled substances, law enforcement, and regulatory boards to access real time patient prescription history information to better identify and prevent the abuse of prescription drugs. The role of the PDMP entrusts that well informed prescribers and pharmacists can and will use their professional expertise to evaluate their patients care and assist those patients who may be abusing controlled substances.

In order to obtain access to the PDMP System you must submit a registration form electronically. Please be sure to complete the correct form:

- [BNE Admin](#)
- [BNE Analyst](#)
- [DOJ Investigator](#)
- [Law Enforcement Agency](#)
- [Non-BNE Support](#)
- [Pharmacist](#)
- [Practitioner](#)
- [Regulatory Board](#)

In addition, prescribers and pharmacists must follow up their registration by submitting notarized copies of their Government ID, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Registration, and State Medical License or State Pharmacist License to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE), P.O. Box 160447, Sacramento, CA 95816, or forgo the notary and present documents in person at any one of our [regional office locations](#) and our BNE personnel will validate and collect your supporting documentation.

NOTE: You must call the regional office ahead of time and make an appointment prior to having your documents validated by BNE personnel.

Select the appropriate registration form according to profession:

- BNE Admin
- BNE Analyst
- DOJ Investigator
- Law Enforcement Agency
- Non-BNE Support
- Pharmacist
- Practitioner
- Regulatory Board





PDMP Registration: Practitioner

Application Instructions

To submit this application, complete the following steps:

Step 1: Complete the on-line application form then click the 'Submit' button.

Step 2: Upon successful submission of this form, you will see a confirmation page with additional instructions for completing the registration process.

Important Notes

*Indicates Required Fields

Your E-Mail Address will be used for communicating account information and system notifications. It is therefore very important that this be an E-Mail Address that only you have access to and is not accessible by others. If this condition is not met your registration will be denied.

For assistance, contact the Help Desk at (916) 319-9274 or pmp_registration@doj.ca.gov

Applicant Information:

Last Name * First Name * Date of Birth mm/dd/yyyy *

E-Mail Address * Re-Enter E-mail Address * Contact Phone *

State Medical License# * NPI#

Specialty * Other Specialty

-- Select One --

Degree * Other Degree

-- Select One --

Address Information

First Address

Business Name * Street Address * County *

Phone# * City * State * Zip * DEA# *

Please check all options that apply to this location *

Business Location Home Location Listed on DEA Certificate

Account Information

Would you like to receive Notifications/Alerts?: *

No Yes

Must create your own individual answers and not answers that are agency sanctioned

Question *

In what city or town was your first job? *

Answer *

Question *

In what city or town was your first job? *

Answer *

Question *

In what city or town was your first job? *

Answer *

Question *

In what city or town was your first job? *

Answer *

Question *

In what city or town was your first job? *

Answer *

Application Validation



Type the two words:



The CAPTCHA feature requires that you enter both words exactly as they appear, separated by a space. If you cannot read both words simply click the refresh button, which looks like two arrows in a circle, next to the CAPTCHA words and you will be prompted with two new words.

Application Certification

User Agreements

The California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), CURES, is committed to assisting in the reduction of pharmaceutical drug diversion without affecting legitimate medical practice and patient care. The CURES system is designed to identify and deter drug abuse and diversion through accurate and rapid tracking of Schedule II through IV controlled substances.

I certify the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

I accept the terms and conditions of the User Agreements.

I CERTIFY/AGREE TO THE ABOVE *

For assistance, contact the Help Desk at (916) 319-9274 or pmp_registration@doj.ca.gov

Submit

Reset

Registration (Continued)

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION PROCESS STEPS:

Print registration confirmation and have notarized.

Respond to e-mail verification request.

Mail notarized application & required supporting documents to CA DOJ.

Required Documentation:

Notarized application

Copy of government-issued identification

Copy of Medical License (Pharmacy or Regulatory License)

Copy of Drug Enforcement Administration Registration

Approval Notification



Patient Activity Report (PAR)

<https://pmp.doj.ca.gov/pdmp/index.do>

State of California Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General

Kamala D. Harris
Attorney General

AG Home Page PDMP Home Page **Patient Activity Report** Change Password HELP Logout

Tools & Resources
BNE Locations
Guidelines to Combating Rx Drug Abuse & Fraud
Health Information Privacy (HIPAA Guidelines)
FAQ's

Welcome to the PDMP Application

Logged in,

CURES

The California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, **CURES**, is committed to assisting in the reduction of pharmaceutical drug diversion without affecting legitimate medical practice and patient care. The CURES program, restructured in 2003 and evolved from the California Triplicate Prescription Program following numerous legislative enactments.

The CURES system is designed to identify and deter drug abuse and diversion through accurate and rapid tracking of Schedule II through IV controlled substances. It is a valuable investigative, preventive and educational tool for law enforcement, regulatory boards, educational researchers, and the healthcare community.

The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program system allows pre-registered users including licensed healthcare prescribers and pharmacists authorized to dispense controlled substances, law enforcement, and regulatory boards to access real time patient prescription history information to better identify and prevent the abuse of prescription drugs. The role of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program entrusts that well informed prescribers and pharmacists can and will use their professional expertise to evaluate their patients care and assist those patients who may be abusing controlled substances.

Dissemination or distribution of this information to anyone other than the registered user is strictly prohibited. Disciplinary, civil or criminal actions will be taken by the Department of Justice and/or appropriate Regulatory Board.

Notifications & Alerts

| Date | Notification |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| 07-26-2010 | CURES ALERT 009 |
| 07-26-2010 | CURES ALERT 010 |
| 07-26-2010 | CURES ALERT 011 |
| 07-26-2010 | CURES ALERT 012 |
| 07-26-2010 | CURES ALERT 013 |

- Prescribing and dispensing history of Schedule II-IV controlled substances.
- Registered prescribers and dispensers can quickly review a patient's controlled substance history.
- Enables a prescriber to identify and prevent drug abuse through accurate & rapid tracking.





Tools & Resources

[Patient Activity Report](#)

[Theft or Loss of Prescriptions](#)

[FAQ's](#)

Patient/Client Activity Report

* Indicates Required Fields

Logged in, My Dr.

Client

Last Name * First Name *

Date of Birth * mm/dd/yyyy Gender

Address

City State Zip

Period in Months *

Search Mode

Search Mode Partial match Exact match

* I certify, under the penalty of perjury, that I am a licenced healthcare provider and I am authorized to obtain the above mentioned patient's dispensed controlled substance history.

Home Patient Activity Report Change Password HELP

Patient/Client Activity Report

[Revise Search](#)

Search Results

| | <u>Last Name</u> | <u>Middle Initials</u> | <u>First Name</u> | <u>DOB</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BOD | | ROB | 09-07-1960 | 2119 TAMIE LN. SAN JOSE , CA , 95130 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BOD | | ROB | 09-07-1960 | 2119 TAMIE LANE SAN JOSE , CA , 95130 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BOD | | ROB | 09-07-1960 | 2119 TAMIE LN SAN JOSE , CA , 95120 |

Patient Activity Report (PAR)



Department of Justice - Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement
Controlled Substance Utilization Review & Evaluation System

01/17/2013 11:19

**CONFIDENTIAL
DOCUMENT**

PATIENT/CLIENT ACTIVITY: CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Prescription Drug Transaction Details:

| Number of Hits: 9 | | Start Date: 01/17/2012 | | | | | | End Date: 01/17/2013 | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| Date Filled | First Name | Last Name | DOB | Address | Drug Name | Form | Str | Qty | PHY Name | PHY# | Dr.'s DEA # | Dr.'s Name | RX# | Refill# |
| 01/20/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | VICODIN | TAB | 1000 MG-5 MG | 10 | WALGREENS #610 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02345678 | 3 |
| 1/23/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | APAP/HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE | TAB | 500 MG-5 MG | 40 | CVS/PHARMACY #110 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02375678 | 1 |
| 02/01/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | XANAX | TAB | 100 MG-5 MG | 60 | WAL-MART #926 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 00284920 | 1 |
| 02/04/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | VICODIN | TAB | 200 MG-5 MG | 60 | TARGET #261 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 09244920 | 2 |
| 03/01/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | APAP/HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE | TAB | 5000 MG-5 MG | 60 | WALGREENS #100 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 04247940 | 4 |
| 03/08/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | XANAX | TAB | 500 MG-5 MG | 80 | CVS/PHARMACY | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02434960 | 1 |
| 03/07/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | APAP/HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE | TAB | 500 MG-5 MG | 60 | WALGREENS | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02795765 | 1 |
| 03/10/2012 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | APAP/HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE | TAB | 500 MG-5 MG | 90 | CVS/PHARMACY #934 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02549607 | 2 |
| 01/01/2013 | JOHN | DOE | 05/23/1960 | 2560 COLLEGE WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95821 | VICODIN | TAB | 1000 MG-5 MG | 30 | TARGET #234 | PHY12345 | AB5678909 | SMITH, JOHN | 02649603 | 3 |

Disclaimer: The Patient Activity Report (PAR) is compiled from information maintained in the Department of Justice's Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES). The CURES maintains Schedule II, Schedule III and Schedule IV prescription information that is received from California Pharmacies and is therefore only as accurate as the information provided by the Pharmacies. If data was submitted with errors or have unknowns within a field, it will not be displayed within this report.

REPORT INFORMATION

- Patient name
- Patient date of birth
- Patient address
- Prescriber name/DEA number
- Pharmacy name/pharmacy license number
- Date prescription was filled
- Prescription number
- Drug name
- Drug quantity and strength
- Number of refills remaining





CURES Program Contacts

California Department of Justice
PDMP/CURES
P.O. Box 160447
Sacramento, California 95816

Phone: (916) 227-3843
FAX: (916) 227-4589
Email: PMP@doj.ca.gov

<http://oag.ca.gov/dures-pdmp>



QUESTIONS?

Thank You!

