
BOARD OF MEDICINE

E-NEWSLETTER

Fall 2018

NOTICE TO LICENSEES

This renewal cycle all licensees will be required to upload proof of completing the required CE.

LICENSEES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SCAN ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS (e.g., proof of CE) AND HAVE THEM SAVED ON THEIR LOCAL DESKTOP IN PDF FORMAT, READY FOR UPLOAD DURING THE RENEWAL PROCESS.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear DC Licensees,

It is hard to believe that we are midway through the Autumn season! The leaves are changing colors and school is in full swing. Here at the Board of Medicine





(Board), October means renewals. By this time you should have received a mailer to your address on file addressing the renewal process. This renewal period DC Health is implementing a new online renewal platform that will provide a more efficient and user friendly experience. This new system has required the implementation of various changes to support it. As a result, the beginning of the renewal period has been postponed to late October. Licensees of the Board will be notified as soon as more details become available.

In the meanwhile, please use this time to gather all your Continuing Education (CE) credits and be sure that you are compliant with our requirements here in the District. For physicians, licensees must complete a minimum of fifty (50) CE hours between 1/1/2017 and 12/31/2018. Furthermore, of those fifty (50) hours, three (3) must be in the subject of HIV/AIDs, two (2) in the subject of LGBTQ Cultural Competency, and a course in the subject of pharmacology. The CE requirements for all other professions under the Board can be found on our website at www.dchealth.dc.gov/bomed. This cycle you will be required to upload proof of your completed CE's.

In addition to CE, all licensees of the Board will be required to undergo new criminal background checks (CBC). However, this renewal period the CBC will be a name based search, performed by DC Health. Licensees will not have to take any action other than agree to the CBC during the renewal process, and pay the requisite fee of \$50.00.

While you are gearing up for your renewal, I would like to call your attention to four (4) exciting matters:

1. [Physician Drug Monitoring Program \(PDMP\)](#) – Sign up to monitor controlled substance prescriptions for your patients. You can also access informative CME on opioid prescribing and other related services. DC Health

MISSION STATEMENT

"To protect and enhance the health, safety, and well-being of District of Columbia residents by promoting evidence-based best practices in health regulation, high standards of quality care and implementing policies that prevent adverse events."



BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

[2018](#)

[2017](#)

BOARD MEETING DATES

FY 2019

October 31, 2018
 November 28, 2018
 December 26, 2018
 January 30, 2019
 February 27, 2019

encourages its licensed physicians to enroll and participate in the PDMP.

2. [DC Medical Reserve Corp \(MRC\)](#) – A network of local medical volunteers who are willing to donate their time during emergencies and other times of community need like parades or inaugurations. All volunteers receive comprehensive instruction in areas of emergency response. The DC MRC is actively recruiting for medical and public health professionals.

3. [Interstate Medical Licensure Compact \(IMLC\)](#) – The DC Council approved DC's participation in the IMLC in June 2018. The program offers a new, voluntary expedited pathway to licensure for qualified physicians who wish to practice in multiple states.

4. [Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment \(MOST\)](#) – This program allows terminally ill patients to determine their end of life treatment in conjunction with their health care providers. More information can be found [here](#).

As a reminder, the Board meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 8:30 am at the offices of DC Health (899 North Capitol Street NE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20002). We welcome any licensee or member of the public to come and attend.

As always, thank you for all that you do to enhance the health of the residents of the District of Columbia.

In Service,

Andrea Anderson, MD, FAAFP

Family Physician

Chair, DC Board of Medicine



MESSAGE FROM DC HEALTH

March 27, 2019

April 24, 2019

May 29, 2018

June 26, 2019

July 31, 2019

August 28, 2019

September 25, 2019

DC HEALTH

LaQuandra Nesbitt, MD, MPH
Director

Sharon Lewis, DHA, RN-BC,
CPM
HRLA Senior Deputy Director

BOARD MEMBERS

Andrea Anderson, MD
Chairperson, Physician Member

Jeffrey Smith, MD
Physician Member

Vikisha Fripp, MD
Physician Member

David Wessel, MD
Physician Member

Joshua Wind, MD
Physician Member

William Studnick, MD



The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Act of 2013, which became effective February 22, 2014, required the Director of the Department of Health (DC Health) to establish a

multi-discipline advisory committee for the purpose of assisting in the implementation and evaluation of the District of Columbia PDMP.

The PDMP Advisory Committee has met quarterly throughout calendar year 2018 and, as the chair of the Committee, I would like to encourage all eligible providers to register for the DC PDMP when you renew this year.

As reported by the DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the District has experienced a 196% increase in opioid-related fatal overdoses from 2014 to 2017. Furthermore, there was an increase in opioid overdoses between 2016 and 2017 and there has been a steady increase in the total number of opioids found in fatal overdoses between 2014 and 2017.

The misuse of and addiction to opioids is a serious national crisis that affects the health of the public. Once you are registered for the PDMP, you will be able to check the PDMP to:

- Aid you in making more informed decisions prior to prescribing controlled prescription medications to your patients thereby reducing the potential for patient abuse and misuse.
- Receive quarterly Prescriber Reports (*sample below*) in your PDMP account that summarize various metrics to include the number of your patients receiving opioids, the number of opioid prescriptions written by you and a comparison to the prescribing of peers within your specialty, morphine milligram equivalent dosing information, opioid treatment duration, and more.

WILLIAM STODOLICK, MD
Physician Member

Christopher Raczynski, MD
Physician Member

Preetha Iyengar, MD
DC Health Representative

Mr. Thomas Dawson, III
Public Member

Mr. Terrence Straub
Public Member

Mr. Thomas Smith
Public Member

Mr. Archie Rich
Public Member

BOARD STAFF

Frank Meyers, JD
Executive Director

Suzanne Fenzel, JD
Board Counsel

Ajay Gohil, JD
Board Counsel

Lisa Robinson
Health Licensing Specialist

Currently, only 12% of physicians and 20% of physician assistants in the District of Columbia are registered in the DC PDMP.

It's time to renew and register for the DC PDMP!

Jacqueline A. Watson, DO, MBA

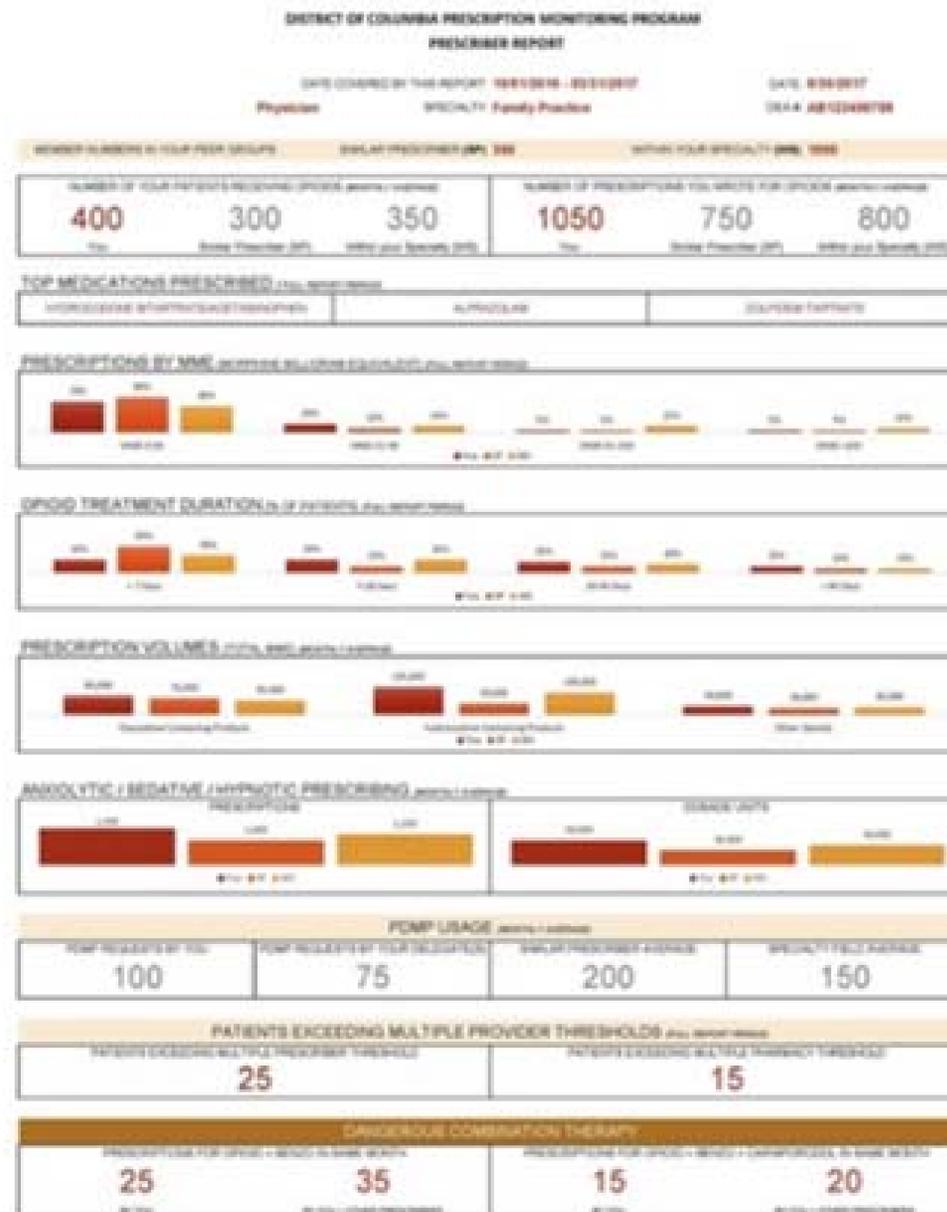
Chief of Staff, DC Health

Chair, DCPDMP Advisory Committee

Mary Harris
Health Licensing Specialist

Angela Braxton
Health Licensing Specialist

Charles Annor
Health Licensing Specialist



Learn more about the DC PDMP here: <https://doh.dc.gov/services/prescription-drug-monitoring-program>

DID YOU CHECK THE DC PDMP?

This year, when you renew your license, you will have the option to also register for the District of Columbia Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (DC PDMP).

The DC PDMP is an electronic database used to monitor and collect data on the dispensation of controlled substances. DC Health encourages you to check the DC PDMP before prescribing opioids.

Register Now for the DC PDMP:

<https://districtofcolumbia.pmpaware.net/login>

Website: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/pdmp>
Email Address: doh.pdmp@dc.gov



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By now all licensees with the Board of Medicine should have received their renewal notice at the mailing address provided to the Board. While the renewal notice stated that online renewals would begin on October 1st, the system has been delayed due to ongoing development and testing. Once the system is live, we will send an email notification to all licensees notifying them of this change, as well as updating our website. In preparation for renewals, I would like to take a moment to remind people of a few key points.

Paperless Renewals

This year's renewals are completely online and paperless. This means applicants will have to go online and complete an electronic renewal, as well as electronically upload relevant documents (e.g.,

proof of CE). Before beginning the renewal process, **LICENSEES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SCAN ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS (e.g., proof of CE) AND HAVE THEM SAVED ON THEIR LOCAL DESKTOP IN PDF FORMAT, READY FOR UPLOAD DURING THE RENEWAL PROCESS.**

Proof of CE

Licensees this renewal cycle will have three options to choose from when certifying their CE.

First, Licensees can indicate they have completed all required CE as of the date of renewal. In that scenario, Licensees **will be required to upload proof of continuing education (CE)**. This proof can be in the form of separate CE certificates or CE transcripts issued by your certifying Board (e.g., ABMS or AOA), so long as they identify the hours awarded, whether the credits are AMA/AOA approved, and the title of the course.

Second, Licensees can indicate they have NOT yet completed the required CE, but will do so by December 31, 2018. In this scenario, Licensees can complete the renewal without uploading CE, but must come back and upload such CE by December 31, 2018.

Lastly, for those Licensees who are renewing for the first time, they can select the option stating they are exempt from CE.

More Info to Come!

Once the renewal system is online, a notification will be sent to all licensees. This notification will include a link to the renewal site, as well as a detailed user guide outlining the various elements of the renewal process. Look for this email to come in the next week.

Frank B. Meyers, JD

Executive Director

Board of Medicine

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPTIONS

To assist licensees in acquiring the required number of CE hours, the Board has compiled the below list of CE resources:

Free CE

DC Health offers free CE credits via the DC Center for Rational Prescribing (DCRx). For more information on what courses are available and how to sign up, visit <https://dchealth.dc.gov/dcrx>.

LGBTQ CE

As a reminder, by December 31, 2018 all professions licensed by the Board of Medicine will need to have completed at least two (2) hours of continuing education in the subject area of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) cultural competency. Below are a list of courses available to licensees to acquire the necessary hours:

- [National LGBT Health Education Center - A Program of the Fenway Institute](#)
- [Human Rights Campaign Foundation](#)

Additionally, both physicians and physician assistants will need to complete at least three (3) hours of CE in the subject of HIV/AIDS. You can find a list of potential courses on the DC Health website [HERE](#).

Pharmacology Requirements

In addition to the above, for those physicians in need of CME related to pharmacology and/or prescribing, or any other CEs, DC Health offers several free programs via the [DC Center for Rational Prescribing](#).

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) REQUIREMENTS

Physicians (MD/DO) - Fifty (50) hours of CE every two (2) years, which includes three (3) hours in the subject of HIV/AIDS, two (2) hours in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency, and at least one (1) course in the subject of pharmacology.

Physician Assistants (PA) - One hundred (100) hours of CE every two (2) years, which includes three (3) hours in the subject of HIV/AIDS and two (2) hours in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

PAs may substitute National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) certification for the one hundred (100) hours, however, they will still be required to complete the required hours of CE in the subject areas of HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ cultural competency.

Naturopathic Physicians (NP) - Thirty (30) hours of CE, which includes two (2) hours of CE in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

Surgical Assistants (SA) - Fifty (50) hours of CE, which includes two (2) hours of CE in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

SAs may substitute certification from American Board of Surgical Assistants (ABSA) or the National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA), if said certification required the completion of fifty (50) hours of CE with the two (2) year period proceeding renewal. However, they will still be required to complete the required hours of CE in the subject area of LGBTQ cultural competency.

Anesthesiologist Assistants (AA) - Hold certification with the National Commission for Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants (NCCAA), or its successor organization, as well as having completed at least two (2) of CE in the in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency

Acupuncturists (ACU) - Currently no CE requirements exist for Acupuncturists in the District.

Polysomnographic Technologists - Twenty (20) hours of CE, which includes at least two (2) hours of CE in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

Polysomnographic Technicians - Twenty (20) hours of CE, which includes at least two (2) hours of CE in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

Trauma Technologists - Fifty (50) hours of CE, which includes at least two (2) hours of CE in the subject of LGBTQ cultural competency.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

[Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2017](#) -

Proposed regulations have been submitted for publication in the DC Register to allow for public comment. The Board is working to finalize these regulations and proceed to full implementation of the IMLC by January of 2019. Interested parties are encouraged to check the Board's website, and future newsletters, for more information as it becomes available.

CONTACT US

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<https://dchealth.dc.gov/bomed>