

## **1. What is a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)?**

The PDMP is an electronic database used to monitor and collect data on the dispensation of prescription data for Schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances, as well as products containing Butalbital and Cyclobenzaprine.

The District of Columbia (DC) PDMP is designed for DC licensed prescribers and dispensers to use as a tool to support informed patient care and to reduce addiction and overdose trends within the District/Maryland/Virginia (DMV) area. There is no cost for registering or accessing the database.

## **2. How do I find laws and regulations that govern the PDMP in the District of Columbia?**

District of Columbia PDMP laws and regulations can be found on the DC PDMP website - <https://dchealth.dc.gov/PDMP>

## **3. Which drugs are monitored?**

Schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances, as well as products containing Butalbital and Cyclobenzaprine.

## **4. Which practitioners can access PDMP data?**

Physicians (MD,DO), pharmacists, dentists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, veterinarians, and other licensed clinicians and professionals authorized by the District of Columbia Department of Health.

## **5. How do I register for the DC PDMP?**

The registration web site is: <https://districtofcolumbia.pmpaware.net/login>.

Licensed practitioners will need the following information to complete their registration:

- DEA Number
- DC Health Professional License Number
- DC Controlled Substance Registration Number
- National Provider ID (NPI)

**6. Is there a requirement to register with the PDMP?**

Yes. All prescribers and dispensers who are licensed in DC are required to register with the DC PDMP. The deadline to register is July 31, 2019.

According to DC Law L22-0288, any prescriber who is currently licensed, or becomes licensed before March 31, 2019, in the District to prescribe a controlled substance or other covered substance in the course of his or her professional practice, and any dispenser who is currently licensed, in the District to dispense a controlled substance or other covered substance to an ultimate user or his or her agent shall register with the PDMP.

**7. If I am a DC licensed practitioner with a DEA number but do not have a CS registration, do I need to apply for a Controlled Substance License to register with the DC PDMP?**

No, practitioners with a DEA number who do not prescribe in the District do not need a Controlled Substance License to register for the PDMP. Practitioners that fall into this category are able to register as Prescriber without a DEA.

**8. Are prescribers and dispensers required to query the DC PDMP?**

No, prescribers and dispensers who are licensed in DC are only required to register with the PDMP. There is no mandate to use or query the PDMP.

**9. Can I have my support staff access the PDMP for me?**

Yes, a prescriber or dispenser authorized to access prescription monitoring data may delegate his or her authority to access the data to up to two (2) health care professionals who are:

- Licensed, registered, or certified by a health occupations board; and
- Employed at the same location and under the direct supervision of the prescriber or dispenser.

Delegates must submit the [Delegate Registration Validation Form](#).

## **10. Are prescribers and dispensers required to access the PDMP?**

### **A prescriber or dispenser:**

(a) Is not required or obligated to access or use the prescription monitoring data available under the Program

(b) When acting in good faith, is not subject to liability or disciplinary action arising solely from:

- (1) Requesting or receiving, or failing to request or receive, prescription monitoring data from the Program
- (2) Acting, or failing to act, on the basis of prescription monitoring data provided by the Program.

## **11. Who is required to report data to the DC PDMP?**

Each dispenser of a covered substance must submit the prescription monitoring data required in the form and manner required by to the Program within twenty-four (24) hours after a covered substance is dispensed for each covered substance dispensed.

Any dispenser located outside the geographical boundaries of the District that is licensed or registered by the District, must submit the prescription monitoring data to the Program within twenty-four (24) hours after the covered substance is dispensed to an ultimate user who resides in the District.

## **12. Who has access to PDMP data?**

- A prescriber or dispenser who is licensed in good standing
- Law Enforcement (open investigations are required)
  - Law enforcement agencies do not have direct access to the system, officials may request information from DC PDMP by completing the [Law Enforcement Records Request Form](#)
- Licensing and Regulatory Boards
- Medical examiners or coroners
- Research organizations
- An individual can request their own prescription monitoring information

### **13. Can I get a copy of my own prescription information?**

Yes, a patient must complete the [Patient SELF Records Request Form](#) or [Patient REPRESENTATIVE Records Request Form](#).

### **14. Is PDMP data kept confidential?**

All prescription monitoring data collected, maintained, or submitted is confidential, privileged, not subject to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion in civil litigation, and is not a public record.

### **15. Are there any resources available for prescribers and dispensers?**

- [\*DCRx: The DC Center for Rational Prescribing\*](#)
- [\*CDC Resources\*](#)
- [\*DC DOH Health Regulation and Licensing Administration\*](#)
- [\*Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense\*](#)
- [\*Health Occupations Revision Act \(HORA\)\*](#)

### **16. Who do I contact for questions about the PDMP?**

All questions and press inquiries regarding the PDMP must be submitted in writing. Interested parties may send inquiries by email to [doh.pdmp@dc.gov](mailto:doh.pdmp@dc.gov) or by regular mail to:

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program  
Health Regulation and Licensing Administration  
899 N. Capitol Street, NE 2nd Floor  
Washington, DC 20002