

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

PDMP Work Group Meeting

November 14, 2024 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Dmitry Kunin, Co-chair
Diane Matt, Colorado Veterinary Medical Association
Marjorie Zimdars-Orthman, Community Member
Nagy Ramzy, Pharmacist, Ret.
Raisa Katanova, Mile High Treatment Recovery
Margaret Rich, Crossroads Turning Points
Santana Torres, Promotores de Esperanza
DORA: Justin Wipf, Gina Sanchez
CDPHE: Barbara Gabella, Maura Proser
Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Shayna Micucci, Jennifer Mackender, Jessica Eaddy, Teresa Cantwell

Absent: See attached list.

Justin Wipf, DORA Program Analyst, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the May 2024 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Work Group Review & Discussion – 2024-2025 PDMP Task Force Annual Report to the General Assembly:

In accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes, DORA's Executive Director consults with the Consortium PDMP Work Group to examine the PDMP and make recommendations to improve its effectiveness in reducing prescription drug abuse in Colorado. The findings, in the form of an annual report to the Executive Director and General Assembly, are submitted by July 1st each year. A copy of the DORA request to the Consortium is attached to the minutes.

The following tasks have been assigned:

- Task #1: Evaluate the Benefits and Risks of Allowing PDMP Access to Opioid Rapid Response Program Trusted Contacts*
- Task #2: Evaluate the Effectiveness of Funding PDMP Integration Pursuant to Colorado House Bill 22-1115 (HB22-1115)
- Task #3: Evaluate Trends in Stimulant Prescribing and Effects of PDMP Use Mandates for Stimulants

*Opioid Rapid Response Trusted Contacts FAQs: <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/media/pdfs/ORRP-Contacts-508.pdf>

Work group members discussed law enforcement access, providers that may lose their prescribing privileges, the ability to track affected patients, and CDPHE's role. Barbara Gabella said she would set up a meeting with Andres Guerrero. Funding related to item #2 was also briefly discussed, including the amount of funds left unspent.

With reference to #3, Justin noted significant increases in the prescribing of stimulants in the past several years among the adult population. Much of the increase is due to the increase in mid-level NP prescribers, who have a level of independence and are often serving rural areas. It is also possible that patients may be accessing online telehealth providers who often do not accept insurance. There are requirements in place for prescribers to check the PDMP before issuing orders for opioids and benzodiazepines, but not for stimulants. Many states have mandates in place, but it varies.

Justin mentioned a recent Department of Justice lawsuit against a telehealth company (Cerebral) for dispensing unauthorized controlled substances: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/telehealth-company-cerebral-agrees-pay-over-36-million-connection-business-practices>

Jose Esquibel suggested that it might be worthwhile to look into prescribing guidelines and consider provider education courses for nurse practitioners. He mentioned an article about the sharp increase in stimulant and non-stimulant prescriptions for women in their 20s and 30s during the Pandemic.

With reference to DORA data requests, Maura Proser indicated there is a data request form available on CDPHE's website or she can be contacted directly.

Data request link: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/center-for-health-and-environmental-data>

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2025 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Attachments: Work group roster, DORA request

Other relevant link noted in Chat: DEA Diversion Control Update: <https://nascsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Jennifer-Reed.pdf>