

## Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

### PDMP Work Group Meeting

July 13, 2023 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. via Zoom

#### **Present:**

Jason Hoppe, DO and Dmitry Kunin, DORA, Co-chairs

Justin Wipf, DORA

Nagy Ramzy, Pharmacist, Ret.

Erica Pike, Colorado Academy of Family Physicians

Marjorie Zimdars-Orthman, Community Member

Tamara Mattox, Crowe, LLP

G.M. Sanchez

CDPHE: Barbara Gabella, Katie Sullivan

Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Shayna Micucci, Jessica Eaddy, Hilary Bryant,

Jennifer Mackender, Rosemarie MacDowell

**Absent:** See attached list.

Co-chair Jason Hoppe called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

A motion was made to approve the May 2023 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

#### **PDMP Utilization:**

The Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee (ISC) will begin holding meetings in August to address opioid related issues, including PDMP matters. Meetings will inform future legislative policies and statutory language that might require revision.

Topics evaluated by the work group include the following (in bold). A summary is also attached to the minutes.

**Shorter prescription duration and PDMP use for second opioid prescriptions** *SB 18-022*  
<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb18-022> - *a prescriber must limit a patient's initial prescription of an opioid to a seven-day supply, if the prescriber has not written an opioid prescription for the patient in the last 12 months. The prescriber may exercise discretion in including a second fill for a seven-day supply.*

#### **Opiate naïve patients**

##### **Comments:**

Jason Hoppe: Prescription limits – a significant number of patients did not see the same provider for a second visit. Providers are unable to determine if patients are opiate naïve without first checking the patient status in the PDMP, and the exclusions listed in the PDMP are confusing. Some of the language is so vague and unenforceable that it's actually potentially harming patients rather than helping.

Katie Sullivan: In a review of comments regarding the bill, it was also unclear if the laws applied to out of state prescribers and prescriptions.

Barbara Gabella: Topics presented to the ISC will require approval by CDPHE's legislative liaison.

The work group discussed linking PDMP data with other data sets through the LINC network and the potential requirement for an explicit statute authorizing PDMP data sharing.

Linked Information Network of Colorado (LINC) <https://coloradolab.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/LINC-Data-Initiative-Description.pdf>

Jason requested other comments regarding how to evaluate the PDMP and whether a national standard to determine effectiveness might exist.

Justin Wipf said a PDMP report is submitted to the Governor's office, but that it's an indirect measure of utilization. DORA has an internal tracking measurement that indicates providers are checking the PDMP before most opioids are prescribed.

Jason asked about reviewing the internal tracking report. He and Dmitry will discuss this further.

### **Increasing PDMP searches**

#### Comments:

Jason said PDMP searches for all patients proved to be an unuseful intervention; however, when searches were made for high risk patients, it actually changed prescribing decisions. He said there are other opportunities to improve utilization and impact prescribing behavior.

#### **PDMP Effectiveness:**

#### **What is working well/ongoing challenges**

#### Comments:

Integration has increased utilization. Work group members discussed vendor fees. Some states have secured permanent funding for statewide integration costs, which includes grants.

Jose Esquibel suggested that opioid settlement funds could help with costs and asked if it would be a worthwhile investment, considering the outcome. Justin said there are a number of examples from other states where integration has helped, particularly if states promote awareness among providers. Just under 50% of Colorado providers are currently integrated.

Dmitry suggested there might be a need to continue to educate providers in order to respond to changes (such as new CDC guidelines). Jason agreed, indicating that there is now a lot more education in medical schools and residencies than there was before, and previous generations of providers were not offered the same educational opportunities.

Jose Esquibel suggested that targeted education in certain parts of the state with high levels of opioid prescribing and overdose deaths might be helpful.

Barbara said she could provide prescribing data by region.

Jose said he will be requesting a PDMP presentation before the ISC on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

Jason said he could present via Zoom.

**Adjournment and Next Meeting:**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Attachment: Work group roster, evaluation summary