



IDAHO STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

THE REPORT

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Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in Idaho

By Kathleen Sutherland, M.D, Board of Medicine

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the U.S. and has been classified as an epidemic. In 2012, 6.8 million people aged 12 and over used prescription drugs non-medically. (Results from the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use & Health. Abuse of prescription pain medications is leading to an increase in opiate overdoses and a growing number of fatalities. The number of emergency department visits due to misuse or abuse of prescription drugs has risen 98.4% since 2004. ("Overdoses of Prescription Opioid Pain Relievers - U.S. 1999-2008" Vital Signs, November 4, 2011, CDC.) Even more worrisome is that this abuse seems to be prevalent in high school students who gain access to narcotics through their parents' or grandparents' medication cabinets. In an effort to reduce the abuse of controlled substances, the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy has implemented a prescription monitoring program. It is hoped that through the use of this program that providers will be able to help prevent misuse or intervene early in the process.

Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMP's) assist health care providers in making better informed treatment decisions for patients. The PMP maintains a database of all controlled substances (Schedules II-V) dispensed in the State of Idaho. This database is available online for all licensed practitioners who have authority to prescribe controlled substances. The website lists all controlled substances that have been prescribed for the specific patient over the preceding year or longer, showing the name of the prescriber, fill date, pharmacy where the medication was dispensed, and quantity and strength of the medications. This information is available online 24/7. Information from the database can be used only for the purpose of assisting practitioners in their prescribing practices for their patients. There are heavy penalties for searching PMP records for personal use, for example searching for boyfriend, girlfriend, or ex-spouse prescribing history.

The PMP program automatically generates reports when threshold numbers of prescribers and pharmacies have been reached or exceeded by a patient during a given month. Some benefits to receiving these reports include accurate background information on new patients, monitoring of current patients, and provision of warnings on patients who may be misusing controlled substances. This may include patients who "doctor shop", seeking care from multiple doctors to obtain multiple prescriptions.

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Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in Idaho continued

To obtain a username and password for the PMP website, e-mail pmp@bop.idaho.gov and go through the five-minute applications process. The password will be sent to you online. It is recommended that all providers access this database before prescribing a controlled substance. Practitioners may also obtain a password for one Designated Agent who may access the database on a provider's behalf, such as an RN or MA in the medical office. Be aware there is a misdemeanor criminal penalty for an authorized online PMP user who intentionally or recklessly fails to safeguard their login information.

Hopefully regular use of the PMP by all licensed practitioners will reduce abuse of controlled substances in Idaho.

Board Adopts the Federation of State Medical Boards Model Policy on DATA 2000 and Treatment of Opioid Addiction in the Medical Office

At its December 6, 2013 meeting the Board of Medicine acted to adopt the model policy of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) for the treatment of opioid addiction in a medical office. The [full text including references](#) are available on the Board web site. A copy of the entire publication is available on the [FSMB web site](#). The model policy is designed to assist physicians who treat opioid addiction in an office setting comply with federal standards and to provide guidelines for quality care.

Board Welcomes New Members

Katie Miner, MS, RD, to the Dietitian Licensing Board
Marc Paul, MS, AT to the Athletic Trainers Licensing Board

Retiring, closing a practice or relocating?

The Board has received multiple inquiries regarding closing a practice, retiring or changing a practice location. The following are suggestions to assist you and your patients through the transition and to provide for the continuity of care of your patients. The Board of Medicine does not have specific rules or laws relating to this issue. You should consider contacting an attorney and your malpractice carrier for more definitive advice or guidance.

- Please visit the Board's home page (bom.idaho.gov), go to the left column entitled "Quick Links", choose "On-Line Address Changes" and make the necessary changes to reflect your new business address and telephone number on record. If you wish a wallet card reflecting the change, please so request and include \$10.60 for a new/duplicate wallet card which will reflect your new address but the same expiration date.
- [Updating the Provider Profile](#) to comply with the Patient Freedom of Information Act -- Update the profile with the latest practice information. Your current Provider Profile is available on the Board's website.
- If you are a Supervising Physician of a Physician Assistant, intern, extern, resident, athletic trainer or medical personnel, please submit a [Change Notification Form](#) to the Board. [Change Notification Forms](#) are available on the Board's website as well as other related forms.
- Mail individual notices to former and current patients of your close of practice/retirement/change of address, your arrangements for storage and transference of medical records and post such a notice in your office and the hospitals where you hold privileges;
- Publish a notice in the various newspapers whose circulations reach former and current patients.

You may wish to contact the local medical society or the Idaho Medical Association for additional guidance or suggestions.

BOARD ACTIONS

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Details of disciplinary actions are available on the [Board of Medicine web site](#)

PLEASE NOTE

Some physicians have similar names, please verify information by license number on our web site.

Explanation of terms:

- Stipulation: an agreement, admission, or concession.
- Stipulation and Order: an agreement between the Board and the practitioner regarding authorization to practice or placing terms or conditions on the authorization to practice.
- Suspension: temporary withdrawal of authorization to practice.
- Reprimand: a formal admonishment of conduct or practice.
- Revocation: cancellation of the authorization to practice.

Margo Saunders, MD

M-6030 Rupert

Action: Reprimand, failure to disclose on application for renewal

Dan Dwyer, MD

M-7188 Boise

Action: License restored, limited

Christine Chutuoc Trandinh, MD

M-11958 Oregon

Action: Fine, Patient Freedom of Information Act non-compliance

Ann De Jong, MD

M-11037 Wisconsin

Action: Final Order of the Board, prohibit provider's telemedicine practice in Idaho



REMINDERS

PMP Carrot or a stick?

Several states have passed legislation requiring mandatory checks of the Prescription Monitoring Profile (PMP) in certain patient care situations or on a specified periodic basis. Other states have mandated subject specific CME on drug abuse. So far Idaho has not had to resort to enacting legislation (a stick) but has relied on the continued encouragement (carrot) and cooperation of prescribers to use the PMP. If you have questions about the PMP or need assistance in registering contact the Board of Pharmacy or email pmp@bop.idaho.gov.

Certification

Many professions require certification and re-certification on a periodic basis. Physician specialty boards require an on-going certification process or maintenance of certification. Allied health professions also require certification on a periodic basis and the licensing boards have incorporated these certification requirements into their rules for initial licensure and or renewal. If you are unsure of the certification requirements for your license renewal please check the rules on the [Board web site](#)

New Requirements for Medical Examiners

As a result of upcoming requirements enacted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Idaho medical examiners who perform DOT medical exams and issue DOT medical certificates will need to obtain certification through FMCSA by May 20, 2014 if they wish to continue performing such exams. For information visit the web site <https://nrcme.fmcsa.dot.gov/>

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Please note if you are submitting a re-sponse to a Board inquiry or a completed application, the completed material must be received in the Board office at least 20 days before the scheduled meeting date. Materials not received in that time frame will be added to the next regularly scheduled meeting agenda.

Board meetings are posted on the [Idaho Board of Medicine web site](#)

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