

# Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

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SUPPORT Act and Nebraska Regulation Requirement to  
Check the PDMP

When Controlled Substances are Prescribed

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# PDMP

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A PDMP is a prescription drug monitoring program through which prescriptions are reported by dispensers and can be tracked to help identify patients who may be misusing opioids or other controlled substances.

The prescriptions are tracked through Nebraska's designated PDMP managed by CyncHealth.

<https://cynchealth.org/services/prescription-drug-monitoring-program>

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# PDMP History

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Starting in 2017, per Nebraska Revised Statute § 71-2454, all licensed pharmacies in Nebraska as well as mail-order pharmacies are required to report all dispensed controlled substances to the PDMP. The PDMP tracks a patient's controlled substance prescription history.

Starting in 2018, per LB 731, prescribers of controlled substances are required to complete continuing education biennially on the prescribing and administering of opiates, which includes a 30-minute session on the PDMP.

# SUPPORT Act

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The SUPPORT Act stands for Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act. This Act, established by the Federal government in 2018, sets requirements for all Medicaid States including the tracking of opioid prescriptions.

The purpose of the Act is aimed at preventing opioid addiction and was written in response to the opioid epidemic in the United States.

<sup>9</sup> Text - H.R.6 - 115th Congress (2017-2018): SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act. (2018, October 24).

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6/text>

<sup>10</sup> 471 NAC 18

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# PDMP Requirements in Nebraska

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Per Nebraska Medicaid regulations, and in accordance with the SUPPORT Act, all providers who prescribe C-II controlled substances to Medicaid patients must review the prescription drug history for that patient in the Nebraska PDMP within seven (7) days prior to the prescribing of the C-II medication.

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# PDMP Requirements in Nebraska

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Excluded from the requirement is a beneficiary who:

- Is receiving hospice or palliative care; or
- Is being treated for cancer; or
- Is a resident of a long-term care facility or other facility where C-II medications are dispensed through a single pharmacy.

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# PDMP Requirements in Nebraska

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In the situation where a prescriber is not able to check the PDMP, despite a good faith effort, the prescriber must:

- Specify and document such good faith effort in the medical record.
- Include the reason(s) why the prescriber was not able to check the PDMP.
- The provider must maintain this documentation to provide to the Nebraska DHHS upon request.

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# PDMP Requirements in Nebraska

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A prescriber may delegate a credentialed staff member in their practice to review the PDMP on their behalf. This staff member must be licensed under the Uniform Credentialing Act. This would be anyone who has a license to practice, i.e., nurse, pharmacist, etc.

Refer to the Uniform Credentialing Act 38-121 link below for specific examples.

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Documents/UniformCredentialingAct.pdf>

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## PDMP Requirements in Nebraska

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This delegated credentialed staff member must then report the finding(s) of their review of the PDMP to the prescriber before the C-II prescription is issued.<sup>12</sup>

The same requirement that the patient's prescription drug history in the PDMP must be reviewed within seven (7) days prior to prescribing the C-II medication, applies when a delegated staff member is used.

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Davidson Wissing  
Drug Overdose Prevention Coordinator Public Health  
DHHS.PDMP@Nebraska.gov  
402-471-0835

Ken Saunders, PharmD, TTS  
Director of Pharmacy Nebraska Medicaid  
[ken.saunders@nebraska.gov](mailto:ken.saunders@nebraska.gov)  
402-471-9379

Kevin Borchert, PharmD.  
Vice President Pharmacy Informatics CyncHealth  
[kborchert@cynchealth.org](mailto:kborchert@cynchealth.org)  
402-552-8576

[dhhs.ne.gov](http://dhhs.ne.gov)

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