



August 13, 2024

Rep. Josh Kassmier – Chair
Economic Affairs Interim Committee
Montana Legislature
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, Montana 59620-1706

RE: 2024 Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR) Interim Report

Dear Chair Kassmier:

On behalf of the Montana Board of Pharmacy (Board), this interim report is an update on the Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR), pursuant to Montana Code Annotated ([MCA](#) [37-7-1514](#)). The Board administers and maintains the MPDR and is administratively attached to the Department of Labor & Industry (Department).

MPDR Overview

The MPDR program was launched in November 2012 and is accessed through a secure online database. MPDR collects a list of controlled substance prescriptions prescribed to patients as reported by Montana licensed pharmacies and allows authorized healthcare providers to access the information as a tool for improving patient safety. MPDR information may also be used to identify possible misuse and/or diversion of controlled substances. The MPDR website is: <http://www.mpdr.mt.gov>.

Completed Projects

- MPDR statute and rule information provided at issuance and renewal of applicable licenses.
- Transitioned to American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) data format 4.2A in March 2023 as recommended by the June 2019 legislative audit.

Ongoing Priorities

- Continued state-wide funding of MPDR integration
 - Integration of MPDR data into electronic health records and pharmacy dispensing systems will continue through collaboration with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) to cover costs for all Montana medical facilities and pharmacies connected to PMP Gateway™ through August 2028.
 - The majority of integration service fees are covered using DPHHS's CDC Overdose Data to Action in States federal grant funds with additional support from MPDR.
 - There are 104 medical facilities and 122 pharmacies connected through MPDR integration. MPDR integration is also available through Big Sky Care Connect, Montana's health information exchange.
- Engagement of the MPDR Advisory Group
 - Meetings were held in November 2022 and April 2024 to review current and upcoming MPDR functionality.

- Collaboration with Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and Indian Health Services (IHS)
 - Both VHA and IHS continue to submit prescription information to the MPDR.
 - MPDR access is allowed for out-of-state licensees working at these facilities located in Montana.
 - VHA is currently integrated with the MPDR, IHS integration is in development.
- Ongoing education and outreach to increase compliance with MPDR requirements
 - **Mandatory Registration and Fee Payment:** Effective October 1, 2019, all Montana licensees authorized to prescribe or dispense prescription drugs are required to register with the MPDR, [37-7-1503, MCA](#), and pay the annual \$30 MPDR fee at the time of license renewal, [37-7-1511, MCA](#).
 - **Prescriber Mandatory Use:** Effective July 1, 2021, a prescriber, or an agent of the prescriber, is required to search a patient's MPDR record before issuing a prescription for an opioid or a benzodiazepines to the patient, except in certain circumstances, [37-7-1515, MCA](#).
 - Newsletter articles, webinars, virtual, and in-person presentations have been shared with key healthcare provider associations and other stakeholders.
- Ongoing de-identified MPDR data sharing
 - Yearly data reports provided to the DPHHS epidemiologist for analysis.
 - Implementation of [Senate Bill 284 \(37-7-1506 \(3\)\(b\), MCA\)](#), requiring report of drugs taken by or prescribed to a victim of suicide, with reports provided to the DPHHS Suicide Prevention Officer.
 - Annual Aggregate Data Quota reports provided to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

MPDR Access

Access to MPDR information is limited to the following:

- Prescribers: Physicians, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists, naturopathic physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) with prescriptive authority
- Pharmacists
- Authorized agents (delegates) who search on behalf of a prescriber/pharmacist
- Authorized representatives of Medicaid, Medicare, VHA, IHS, and Tribal Health
- Law enforcement pursuant to a subpoena
- Professional licensing boards investigating drug misuse or diversion
- Individuals who request a copy of their own prescription history
- Authorized Board staff for administrative purposes

MPDR Statistics

- Over 5.3 million prescriptions are in the MPDR database covering a 3-year time frame.
- An average of 138,000 prescription histories are searched each month.
- Interstate data sharing is available with 30 states, including all border states and the Military Health System.
- As of July 2024, 9,924 authorized users are registered of 19,696 eligible for access (50.4%).
 - For authorized users located in Montana, 6,071 are registered of 8,586 eligible for access (70.7%).
 - Registration percentages by license type located in Montana:
 - Physicians (including resident and compact licenses) 61.3% (2,130 of 3,474)
 - Dentists 67.1% (492 of 733)
 - Optometrists 51.9% (110 of 212)

- Podiatrists 69% (40 of 58)
- Naturopathic Physicians 57.7% (60 of 104)
- Physician Assistants 73.6% (687 of 933)
- APRN with prescriptive authority 75.9% (1,171 of 1,543)
- Pharmacists 89.6% (1,324 of 1,477)

For additional details, please see the attached MPDR 2024 Second Quarter Statistics report.

MPDR Funding

- MPDR is funded through a MPDR annual fee collected from prescribers and pharmacists at the time of license renewal, [37-7-1511, MCA](#).
- A \$30 annual fee was established in rule and is collected from all Montana licensees authorized to prescribe or dispense prescription medications, [ARM 24.174.1712](#). The MPDR fee is abated, \$0/no cost, for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 to comply with [17-2-302, MCA](#), regarding cash balance.
- The general operating budget for Fiscal Year 2025 is projected to be \$300,000.

On behalf of the Montana Board of Pharmacy, thank you for the opportunity to update the Committee on the MPDR program. For additional information, please contact me at Nikki.Griffis@mt.gov, or 406-841-2240.

Sincerely,

/s/ Nikki Griffis
Nikki Griffis, PharmD
Program Manager, Montana Prescription Drug Registry

Enclosure: MPDR Second Quarter 2024 Statistics Report
CC: Sarah Swanson, Commissioner

Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR) 2024 Second Quarter Statistics

(April 2024 – June 2024 statistics compiled on July 31, 2024)

MPDR Eligibility and Registration					
Category	April	May	June	Total (March 2021 – June 2024)	Comments
Total Number of Registered Prescribers and Pharmacists (Net new numbers)	9,712 (102)	9,793 (81)	9,924 (131)	9,924	- Top 3 registered license types (MPDR Roles): Physician, APRN, Pharmacist. - 50.4% (9,924 of 19,696) of eligible users are registered. - 70.7% (6,071 of 8,586) of eligible users located in Montana are registered. - See below chart for details.
Total Number of Delegate Accounts (Net new numbers)	1,502 (23)	1,524 (22)	1,546 (22)	1,546	Delegate relationships are renewed every September and March.

MPDR Eligibility and Registration		
Registration Percentage for Eligible Users by License Type (MPDR Role)		
License Type	Registration Percentage of Total Eligible	Registration Percentage for those located in Montana
Physician (including Resident and Compact licensees)	39.5% (4,294 of 10,880)	61.3% (2,130 of 3,474)
Dentist	60.7% (574 of 946)	67.1% (492 of 733)
Optometrist	49.5% (161 of 325)	51.9% (110 of 212)
Physician Assistant	61.9% (852 of 1,377)	73.6% (687 of 933)
Podiatrist	70.7% (53 of 75)	69% (40 of 58)
Naturopathic Physician	46.8% (73 of 156)	57.7% (60 of 104)
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) with Prescriptive Authority	55.9% (1,961 of 3,508)	75.9% (1,171 of 1,543)
Pharmacist	76.6% (1,861 of 2,429)	89.6% (1,324 of 1,477)

Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR) 2024 Second Quarter Statistics

(April 2024 – June 2024 statistics compiled on July 31, 2024)

MPDR Search Statistics					
Category	April	May	June	Total (March 2021 – June 2024)	Comments (Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP))
Total Number of Online and Integration Patient History Searches	138,002	141,941	132,233	4,431,907	Top 3 searching by MPDR roles: Pharmacist, Prescriber Delegate – Unlicensed, Physician.
Interstate Data Sharing (Outgoing)	78,492	77,890	72,670	1,486,296	Top 5 requested PMP: WA, ID, ND, WY, OR. MPDR is connected to 30 states* including all border states & Military Health Systems.
Interstate Data Sharing (Incoming)	4,352,441	4,056,209	3,970,000	87,773,746	Top 5 requesting PMP: Veterans Health, TX, NY, GA, OK.
Facilities Connected via Integration				226	122 Pharmacies, 104 Facilities.
Integration Prescriber Participation	49%	52%	53%		Prescribers using integration per number of prescribers of controlled substances in MT.
Integration Pharmacy Participation	52%	51%	51%		Pharmacies using integration per pharmacies licensed in MT.
Total Number of Law Enforcement Subpoenas				443	Online subpoena process began June 7, 2021.
Total Number of Board Investigator Requests				89	Online complaint form process began June 7, 2021.
Total Requests for an Individual's Own Registry Information				11	

* Montana shares data with AK, AR, AZ, CO, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, LA, MI, MN, MS, NV, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI & WY



Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR) 2024 Second Quarter Statistics

(April 2024 – June 2024 statistics compiled on July 31, 2024)

MPDR Dispensation Statistics					
Category	April	May	June	Three-year Total	Comments
Number of Prescriptions Reported to the Database	153,409	156,324	141,202	5,358,195	Opioids – 43.6% Non-Opioids – 56.4% Schedule II – 49.7% Schedule III – 9.5% Schedule IV – 34.9% Schedule V – 5.8%
Total Number of Pharmacies Submitting Prescription Data				638	
Total Number of Prescribers				35,193	

MPDR Dispensation Statistics	
Top 10 Medications by Prescription Count (April - June 2024)	
By Generic Drug Name	By Drug Strength
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hydrocodone/APAP 2) Dextroamphetamine/Amphetamine 3) Oxycodone 4) Tramadol 5) Lorazepam 6) Methylphenidate 7) Zolpidem 8) Clonazepam 9) Pregabalin 10) Lisdexamfetamine 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hydrocodone/APAP 5-325 mg 2) Tramadol 50 mg 3) Oxycodone 5 mg 4) Zolpidem 10 mg 5) Hydrocodone/APAP 10-325 mg 6) Lorazepam 0.5 mg 7) Clonazepam 0.5 mg 8) Lorazepam 1 mg 9) Hydrocodone/APAP 7.5-325 mg 10) Clonazepam 1 mg