Congratulations! You have shown an interest in learning about the Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) and how to use it. This information will introduce you to the PDMP, what it is, the benefits to prescribers and dispensers, how to request access, and how to search for a patient’s dispensed controlled substance medication history.

**Overview of the Problem**

The United States is experiencing an epidemic of drug overdose deaths. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state, “More people died from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any year on record. The majority of drug overdose deaths (more than six out of ten) involve an opioid. And since 1999, the number of overdose deaths involving opioids (including prescription opioid pain relievers and heroin) nearly quadrupled. From 2000 to 2014 nearly half a million people died from drug overdoses. 78 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose.”

In 2015, Nebraska’s drug overdose age-adjusted death rate was 8.0 per 100,000 up from 3.6 per 100,000 people in 2004. The U.S. age-adjusted drug overdose death rate per 100,000 people was 16.3 in 2015 and 9.3 in 2004. In Nebraska (2015), drugs and medications – prescription drugs, illicit drugs, and over-the-counter medications – were the underlying cause of death for 91% of all poisoning deaths. Of all drug overdose deaths, 67% were unintentional.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Increases in Drug and Opioid Overdose Deaths — United States, 2000–2014.* MMWR 2015; 64;1-5. [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm655051e1.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm655051e1.htm)

**What is a PDMP?**

The Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is a unique statewide tool for prescribers and dispensers that collects dispensed prescription information, is housed on the Health Information Exchange platform, and is a collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as established in 2011 (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-2454, 71-2455, 71-2456). The Nebraska PDMP is a patient safety tool offering the medical provider more comprehensive information about their patient’s medication history and treatment.

Beginning January 1, 2017, all dispensed controlled substances information is required to be submitted on a daily basis to the PDMP, as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (2). The PDMP stores the information in a secure database and makes it available to healthcare professionals as authorized by law.
Beginning January 1, 2018, dispensers are required to report all prescription drugs dispensed for an enhanced medication history, as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (2).

**Purpose of PDMP (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (1))**

The purpose of the Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program is to:

1) Prevent the misuse of controlled substances that are prescribed, and

2) Allow prescribers and dispensers to monitor the care and treatment of patients for whom such a prescription drug is prescribed to ensure that such prescription drugs are used for medically appropriate purposes.

(Source: LB 471, approved by Governor, February 24, 2016)

The PDMP allows the medical provider access to more comprehensive information about their patient’s medication history and treatment, so that they can make a more informed decision about their patient’s treatment plan.

**Legislation**


**Benefits to Prescribers and Dispensers**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) state that PDMPs are designed to monitor prescription information for patient safety, suspected abuse or diversion (i.e. channeling drugs into illegal use), and can give a prescriber or dispenser critical information regarding a patient’s controlled substance prescription history. This information can help prescribers and dispensers identify patients at high-risk who would benefit from early interventions.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP) provide continuity of care among providers working in a variety of practice settings. The PDMP databases help providers by increasing awareness of all active controlled substance medications on file for a patient. PDMPs also help providers safely and effectively treat pain. PDMPs may alert prescribers to patients obtaining prescriptions from multiple prescribers or dispensers (known as "doctor shoppers") and may deter patients from doctor shopping. Prescribers can use PDMP data as a tool to monitor compliance and increase confidence in prescribing decisions.

PDMPs help dispensers ensure that patients who are treated for legitimate pain maintain access to essential medications. The PDMP databases can help monitor a patient’s compliance with their treatment plan, help identify at-risk patients or alert dispensers to prescriptions likely to enter the illicit market.

- Authorized users of the PDMP can use it as a clinical tool to help identify inappropriate abuse or misuse, allowing the prescriber to make a more informed clinical decision regarding patient treatment
- Complete history of controlled substances dispensed

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

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- Prescriber can run reports prior to a patient appointment to review and use it for treatment plan
- Pharmacist can run reports when a prescription is being dispensed to review history for early or late fills or if other prescriptions are being prescribed by multiple practitioners or are being dispensed by multiple pharmacies
- Rapid turn-around
  o Prescription data for Nebraska will be reported daily.
- Quick report availability
  o Reports are available within 1 minute or less in many cases
- Integration into HIE
  o Ease of use, additional information for those using the NeHII Optum HIE.
  o If a patient has been selected, then the practitioner need only select the medication history query button.
- Beginning January 1, 2018, data will be uploaded for all prescription drugs, providing a complete medication history to assist with the medication reconciliation process

What Data Must Be Reported by Dispensers to the PDMP?
(Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (3)(a-h))

The following is a condensed version not inclusive of all data elements required for reporting. For a full list please see the Dispenser’s Implementation Guide for reference:

**Dispenser data**
- NPI
- DEA # (when available)
- Pharmacy/Dispenser Name

**Patient data**
- Name (last, first)
- Address
- Date of Birth
- Species (Human vs. Veterinary Patient)

**Drug & Rx data**
- Reporting Status (New vs. Revise vs. Void)
- Prescription Number
- Date Written
- Refills authorized
- Date Filled
- Refill Number
- Product ID (NDC Code)
- Quantity Dispensed
- Days Supply
- Drug Dosage Units Code
- Classification Code for Payment Type

**Prescriber data**
- NPI
- DEA # (if controlled substance)
- Name (last, first)
Who is Exempted From Reporting?
(Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-2454 (7)(b))

The following are exemptions to reporting data to the PDMP if:

- the delivery of such prescription drug is for immediate use for purposes of inpatient hospital care or emergency department care
- the administration of a prescription drug by an authorized person upon the lawful order of a prescriber
- a wholesale distributor of a prescription drug monitored by the prescription drug monitoring system
- Beginning July 1, 2018, a veterinarian licensed under the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act shall be required to report a dispensed prescription of controlled substances listed on Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV pursuant to section Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-405.

NOTE: If a dispenser meets the above criteria, or if the dispenser NEVER dispenses controlled substances, he/she may complete the Exemption Information Form found at [www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP) and email it to PDMP@nehii.org. This exemption may remain in effect until December 31, 2017.

Who Can Access PDMP Data?
(Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (7) (a-c)

Prescribers
- Physicians/M.D.
- Physician Assistants
- Medical residents with a TEP
- Osteopaths
- Optometrists
- Podiatrists
- Veterinarians
- Dentists
- Nurse Midwives (APRN-CNM)
- Nurse Practitioners (APRN-CRNA)
- Nurse Practitioners (APRN-NP)
- Nurse Practitioners (APRN-CNS)

Dispensers
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacist Interns (under supervision of a pharmacist)
- Pharmacy technicians (under supervision of a pharmacist)
- Practitioners dispensing incident to practice of their profession
- Prescribing practitioners with a dispensing practitioner pharmacy license

Designee
Any licensed or registered health care professional credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act if designated by a prescriber or dispenser to act as an agent of the prescriber
Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Registering To Use The PDMP

Prescribers, Dispensers, and Prescriber’s or Dispenser’s Designees are allowed to register and access the PDMP. Instructions on how to register and access the PDMP are provided below.

Dispensed controlled substance data are uploaded from all dispensers who dispense prescriptions in Nebraska or to an address in Nebraska for 2017. This includes Nebraska pharmacies, mail service pharmacies, delegated dispensers, prescribers with a dispensing practitioner pharmacy license, and practitioners dispensing incident to practice of their profession. Dispensed controlled substance information is required to be reported to the Nebraska PDMP on a daily basis (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454). This upload may be through an automated process supplied by the pharmacy prescription system vendor or by manual entry through a secured internet process (SFTP).

Step 1. Registering for PDMP Access

Fill out the online User Access Request Form. This can be found at www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP or www.nehii.org.

Complete and submit the User Access Request Form online. No paper/fax/email forms will be accepted after September 15, 2017.

If you are a NEWLY enrolled participant of the NeHII HIE and a prescriber or dispenser, you will be enrolled for access to the PDMP by NeHII and will not need to complete a new User Access Request Form. You will receive an email from noreply_provisioning@optum.com informing you of a change to your HIE registration. If you are another type of health care professional registered or licensed under the Uniform Credentialing Act, you will need to have a prescriber or dispenser complete a new User Access Request Form and designate you for access to the PDMP.

Step 2. Complete Training

As per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 (6) as approved within LB223, all new users of the PDMP are required to undergo training on the purposes of the system, access to and proper usage of the system, and the law relating to the system, including confidentiality and security of the prescription drug monitoring system.

This training may be completed by viewing an on-demand video. The training video may be found and viewed at http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/PDMP/Pages/PDMPTraining.aspx.
This 20-minute video provides important information to aid the user in accessing and utilizing the PDMP.

On the last slide you will find a link to a Training Acknowledgement. This brief acknowledgement survey is required and will serve as verification of your completion of mandatory training.

An in-person training session may be scheduled and conducted through the Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII).

**Step 3. Obtaining and creating your username and password**

After you submit your completed User Access Request form, you will be redirected to the PDMP Training website including a link to the on-demand training video for your convenience. If you do not complete the training immediately, expect an email notification advising training must be completed before moving on in the registration process.

The PMDP provisioning process may take approximately 2 weeks to complete once all correct information is received and mandatory PDMP training is completed. Upon completion you will
receive an email notification from noreply_provisioning@optum.com with a link which will
direct you to a website, instructing you to create your secure username and password.

After receiving the email from optum.com, select Click here to get started....

Subject: PDMPHIE - Welcome to NHiH

Dear <receiver_first_name> <receiver_last_name>,

You have been given access to a new application through Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NHiH).

Click here to get started...

Sincerely,
<admin_first_name> <admin_last_name>.

Please contact support@nhih.org or 888-978-1799 with any questions regarding your access.

Upon sign in, access your new resource at: https://eprescribe.nhih.org/api/secure/dashboard/new

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.
All replies are automatically deleted. For questions regarding this message, refer to the contact information.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual
or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the
Administrator listed in the email and arrange for the return or destruction of these documents. If you are not
the intended recipient you are notified that declining, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance
on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

Complete the information below. You will be able to create your own Username and Password.

The Username must:
Be between 6 to 20 characters
Have at least 1 alpha character
Contain no spaces
Contain only alphanumeric and hyphen characters (A, B, C, 1, 2, 3, -, etc.)

The Password must:
Be 8 characters or more
Contain at least 1 UPPERCASE character (A, B, C, D, etc.)
Contain at least 1 lowercase character (a, b, c, d, etc.)
Contain at least 1 numeric character (1,2,3,4, etc.)
Contain at least 1 non-alphanumeric character (e.g., !,@,#,$, etc.)
Check the box at the bottom of the screen and select **Continue**.

Upon successful registration and creation of your username and password, you will see a notification that a confirmation has been sent to your email address.

An email will be sent to you to confirm your registration into the PDMP. Click **Confirm Email Address**.
Another email will be sent once you have confirmed your email address. Click **Continue** to proceed to the next step.

Click **Continue**

Click **Sign In with Optum ID** (Optum ID is the Username and Password you created for the PDMP).
Enter your Username (Optum ID) or email address and Password. Click **Sign In.**

Answer the security question. Click **Submit**

You may review the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy links at the top of the page. Once you click **Accept** you will be at the Link Dashboard landing page to select the Nebraska PDMP button/tile.
The following training component will provide PDMP users with basic knowledge on how to access the PDMP, search for a patient, review patient’s medical history, and print reports from the PDMP. This training has been developed in collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Public Health and the Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII). The purpose of this training is to enhance user’s ability to maximize the information within the PDMP system and to provide treatment to patients in an effective and safe manner.

Learning Objectives:
1. PDMP users will know how to access the PDMP.
2. PDMP users will know how to effectively search for a patient.
3. PDMP users will know to review a patient’s medical history.
4. PDMP user will know to print a report.

Step 1. Access the PDMP

The PDMP may be accessed by one of three websites:
1. NeHII website (www.nehii.org) and select PDMP Log In

Welcome to NeHII

NeHII is leading the effort to create a secure, online, web-based Health Information Exchange (HIE) designed to serve the state of Nebraska. Improved delivery of health care information and reduced health care costs are good for all citizens of Nebraska. The state has a proud tradition and reputation of providing the finest health care possible to its citizens. The HIE will help health care providers take health care to the next level.

Over the next few years the HIE will be rolled out across the state and ultimately will become part of a planned Nationwide Health Information Network (NHN). This partnership will again improve the level of health care for Nebraskans as well as for the Nation as a whole.

Best of all, these information exchanges will help improve the quality of health care and control the rapidly increasing cost of health care.

The mission, vision, and goals of NeHII provide the ideals and constructs for development of the HIE.
2. DHHS PDMP website (www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP) and select PDMP Log In Portal

3. Access the website https://provider.linkhealth.com or www.nehii.org/PDMP

After accessing the website through one of the 3 options:

1. Enter your **username** and **password**
2. Select the Nebraska PDMP tile button

If you are a HIE participant, you will have two tiles available. Select the Nebraska PDMP tile to access the PDMP data.

3. When you log into the PDMP for the first time you will be required to read and agree to the PDMP System Use Agreement.
4. You will then be directed to the screen to select a patient.

**Step 2. Searching a Patient**

There are several fields that may be selected for the patient search criteria. Patient’s First Name, Last Name, Date of Birth are **required** fields. Zip code, City, and Gender are **optional** fields, and do not need to be entered. A minimum of **two letters** are needed when entering the First Name and Last Name fields. The full date of birth is required. A minimum of 2 letters or 2 digits are needed if entering City or Zip code, respectively.

![Search Medication History](image)

**NOTE:** The patient search criteria must match how the pharmacies have entered the patient into their computer system.

If the search criteria does not identify a patient, the system will display, **“No medication History found for this patient”**.
If this is the case, you can modify your search by entering new or different search criteria.

**Hint: Utilize Best Practice Methods Below**

- You may want to enter information as it appears on the patient’s insurance card or state ID (e.g., driver’s license, military ID, etc.).
- You may want to enter a different zip code if the patient may have moved in the last 12 months, reduce the zip code to the first 2 digits only, or leave the field blank.

A listing of all patients who met the search criteria will be displayed. Click on the check box to the left of the patient to select them in the query. Multiple patients may be selected to combine and display in a single query.

It is up to the discretion of the user to select one or more patients who he or she believes are the same person and will be combined for the query results. Patient selections will **not** be saved for future use.

### Step 3. Reviewing a Report

The query results will display for all dispensed prescriptions reported for the patient(s) selected.

The top of the screen will display a legend with a temporary Patient ID next to the selected patient.

The prescription information query results will display under the legend. Prescriptions are by default grouped between controlled substances and non-controlled substances. The temporary PDMP Training Materials CDC PDP PfS # 1U17CE002736-01, Harold Rogers Grant # 2015-PM-BX-0005

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Patient ID reference number of the patient whom the prescription drug was dispensed to is listed on the left side of the display.

The patient’s dispensed prescription history will default to showing the last 6 months of data. This can be changed to display 3, 6, 9, or 12 months of information.

The grouping of prescriptions defaults to display controlled substances at the top, separated by non-controlled substances. This may be changed to display only controlled substances, or to remove the groupings and list all prescription drugs by date filled or alphabetically.

The medication will list the generic name first. The dispensed product name is listed in parentheses (e.g., if dispensed as a generic hydrocodone-acetaminophen, then the generic name will be displayed. If dispensed as the brand name Vicodin, then Vicodin will be displayed in parentheses).
Step 4. Printing a Report

A report may be viewed or printed in pdf format by selecting View/Print PDF.

The PDF will display the information based on the display criteria (grouping, sorting) selected on the query display results.
NOTE: Any one of the three different reports are able to be printed however, HIPAA and patient privacy/confidentiality guidelines still apply. For further information, please see your legal counsel and organization/business policies.

**Support Questions**

If you have any questions regarding the User Access to the PDMP, you may email PDMP@nehii.org or NeHII Support at 1-866-978-1799.

For additional information regarding the PDMP please go to www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP.

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For questions regarding PDMP registration and access:
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