

420-7-2-.12 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Reporting to Database by Dispensers

(1) All entities that dispense controlled substances, Class II-V, are required to report to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program database. These entities include but are not limited to:

(a) Licensed community, ambulatory, hospital outpatient, and medicinal oxygen pharmacies;

(b) Mail order pharmacies or pharmacy benefit programs filling prescriptions for or dispensing controlled substances to residents of Alabama;

(c) Licensed physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, or veterinarians who dispense controlled substances other than samples directly to patients.

(2) Submission shall be made in the following manner:

(a) All dispensers will report at least once weekly by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday or according to a reporting schedule established by the Board of Pharmacy. Data elements will be submitted in a format to be specified by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Dispensers will be notified by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program of the proper procedures for data submission.

(b) Dispensers must electronically report according to American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) Standards using the US Postal Addressing Standards.

(c) In the event that the electronic transmission of the information is not feasible, the dispenser must request a waiver in advance to submit prescription information in an alternate format approved by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Waiver requests and alternate formats must be submitted to:

Alabama Department of Public Health
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
The RSA Tower, Suite 1010
P.O. Box 303017
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017
Phone: (334)206-5226
Fax: (334)206-5663

(3) The following entities are not required to report dispensing of a controlled substance, so long as the controlled substance is administered and used by a patient on the premises of the facility:

(a) General and specialized hospitals;

- (b) Nursing homes;
- (c) Other health care facilities that provide inpatient care.
- (4) The following drugs are not required to be reported:
 - (a) Sample medications;
 - (b) Controlled substances administered to patients by injection, topical application, suppository administration, or oral administration during the course of treatment on the premises.
- (5) Penalties for noncompliance/non-reporting:
 - (a) Licensing boards shall supply an electronic listing to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program of dispensers required to report controlled substances on a monthly basis or as designated by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.
 - (b) The Prescription Drug Database Program will monitor the list of dispensers provided by the licensing boards for compliance in reporting to the database.
 - (c) The Alabama Department of Public Health will notify each licensing board in writing twice yearly on January 30 and July 30 of the failure to report to the database. Upon notification of non-reporting dispensers, each board will investigate and report to the Alabama Department of Public Health the outcome.

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Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 20-2-210, et.seq

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