

FY2019

Third Quarter Report January – March 2019

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM



New User Accounts

In the first quarter of 2019, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) approved 1,097 new user accounts. The total number of users in the PDMP system surpassed 20,000 in January, finishing out the quarter with 20,952 user accounts. The role type with the highest number of new accounts was the Physician (MD/DO) role with 351 accounts for the quarter and 222 accounts in March alone. Recently, all relevant professional boards were encouraged to increase compliance to the PDMP mandatory use law, which is reflected in the increase of new users.

Table 1: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program New User Accounts by Role Types—Arkansas—January – March 2019

	JAN	FEB	MAR	TOTAL
Physician (MD, DO)	72	57	222	351
Prescriber Delegate - Licensed	81	55	58	194
Nurse Practitioner / Clinical Nurse Specialist	27	42	47	116
Prescriber Delegate - Unlicensed	63	62	45	170
Dentist	12	5	5	22
Physician Assistant	9	6	15	30
Medical Resident	9	39	25	73
Optometrist	1	0	1	2
Veterinarian	1	31	5	37
Podiatrist (DPM)	1	1	1	3
Pharmacist	21	21	19	61
Pharmacist's Delegate - Licensed	6	8	4	18
Pharmacist's Delegate - Unlicensed	0	0	0	0
Delegate CLEPDDI	1	0	0	1
Local	2	1	4	7
Master CLEPDDI	0	0	2	2
State Medicaid Program	5	3	0	8
Board of Medicine Investigator	0	0	0	0
Board of Nursing Investigator	0	0	0	0
Board of Pharmacy Investigator	0	0	0	0
Board of Dentistry Investigator	0	1	0	1
Admin	0	1	0	1

PDMP Usage

Since the AR PDMP went live in 2013, the usage of the system has evolved to include in-state patient searches in the AR PDMP database, out-of-state patient searches of the AR PDMP, and patient searches initiated through integrated systems that combine the AR PDMP into electronic health records (EHR) and pharmacy dispensing software (PDS).

In previous quarterly and annual reports, “queries” were reported as the sum of log-ins *and* patient searches (via all avenues listed above) in the AR PDMP database. For a more accurate analysis, the program will now report only patient searches, and will not include log-ins. Each method of query (in-state PDMP database, out-of-state, integration) will be calculated and reported separately. This will more accurately portray the continued evolution of use of the AR PDMP. Totals in this report and future reports cannot, therefore, be compared to previous quarterly reports because the values have been calculated differently.

Table 2: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Pharmacist Query Totals by Method—Arkansas—January – March 2019

Month	AR PDMP	Out-of-state	Integration	Total
Jan	86,623	3,330	2,532,227	2,622,180
Feb	76,986	2,947	1,958,161	2,038,094
Mar	82,015	3,342	1,811,655	1,897,012

Integration queries by prescribers increased from 1,940,228 to 3,670,237 from January to March (Table 3). This trend coincides with a steady increase in hospitals and clinics integrating the PDMP into EHR systems for ease of use. With the increase in integrations (both in state and out) and newly enacted PDMP mandatory use laws for prescribers and pharmacists, the out-of-state and integration query numbers should continue to increase.

Table 3: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Prescriber Query Totals by Method—Arkansas—January – March 2019

Month	AR PDMP	Out-of-state	Integration	Total
Jan	290,445	36,157	1,940,228	2,266,830
Feb	255,154	31,995	2,323,076	2,610,225
Mar	266,384	31,888	3,670,237	3,968,509

The number of queries performed by law enforcement remains steady from January to March ranging from 182 queries to 198 queries; while the number of queries executed by the professional boards decreased from 52 queries in January to 33 queries in March (Table 4).

Table 4: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Law Enforcement and Professional Boards Query Totals—Arkansas—January – March 2019

Month	Law Enforcement	Professional Boards
Jan	182	52
Feb	198	44
Mar	182	33

2019 Legislative Session

In the 2019 legislative session, three bills were passed concerning the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

Act 112 of 2019 requires the Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine to adopt rules limiting the amount of schedule II narcotics prescribed and dispensed by the licensed podiatrists. The act also mandates podiatrists to check the PDMP in accordance to Arkansas code 20-7-604(d)(2).

Act 141 of 2019 amended the PDMP law to allow the Office of Medicaid Inspector General to access the PDMP for the review and investigation in matters of fraud, waste, and abuse within the Arkansas Medicaid prescription drug program.

Act 605 of 2019 amended the law regarding information exchange with other prescription drug monitoring programs to include the federal prescription drug monitoring program. This will allow the Arkansas PDMP to share prescription data with the Department of Defense Military Health System (MHS) PDMP. The MHS PDMP collects prescription data from military bases located in the United States and around the world.