



What is the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)?

Washington State's PMP is called Prescription Review. It is a secure statewide online database that collects patient data on Schedules II, III, IV, and V controlled substances. You can find a list of these medications and more information at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=69.50>.

Most states in the U.S. have a PMP, and [more studies](#) are showing their effectiveness. They are intended to improve public health, enhance patient care, and protect public safety.

This FAQ primarily addresses dispensing questions. For more questions on checking Prescription Review related to clients, see the Clinician FAQ on www.wapmp.org.

Why do veterinarians need to participate in this?

Prescription Review involves all providers who prescribe or dispense prescription medications. By having all practitioners, including veterinarians, submit data the [Department of Health](#) can help ensure that all potential sources for abuse or misuse are covered and patient safety is protected.

How do I know if my practice has the right software?

- Read through the [Dispenser's Implementation Guide](#).
- Determine whether your veterinary practice management software is capable of interfacing with Prescription Review's online reporting system. Some are aligned. If not, ask your software vendor to seek alignment. Everything they need is in the Dispenser's Implementation Guide.

Can we delegate authority to request information?

Yes. A prescriber can delegate the authority to a licensed health professional that works for them (such as a technician or medication clerk). The delegating prescriber must ensure that the employee maintains confidentiality of the information.

Can we print this information?

Yes.

How often do we need to report?

Report within seven days of dispensing the substance. Most practices submit weekly for the prior seven days.

Is this real-time information or delayed?

There will be a lag of one week. Therefore, prescriptions dispensed a few days before your Prescription Review check may not show up.

What if we don't have internet?

The law requires all dispensers to find or have internet access in order to enter this information.

How will this affect the client and patient experience?

You are not required to notify the client about a dispenser entry. This should not affect the visit.

How is client privacy protected?

Prescription Review is HIPAA compliant. It has built-in security features designed to protect client information. Only people authorized by law can access personal prescription records.

Do we have to document our actions?

Documentation is not required, but it is recommended.

What if we didn't dispense anything during one week?

You must still file a weekly zero report for that week.

What if we never dispense controlled substances?

You are exempt and do not need to participate.

What information do we report for the patient?

Provide the name of the animal, a best estimate for the date of birth, and the owner's address. For "who picked up the prescription", you can use the owner's name and photo ID.

How do we report patient ID?

Use a customer ID, if you use it for your business records, or leave this field blank.

What do we report if we don't use prescription numbers?

Use an invoice number instead.

What if we can't find the NDC number or it is rejected by the system?

The National Drug Code (NDC) number is a specific 11-digit number that describes the product. Sometimes you may have not received a valid NDC number or do not have it for a controlled substance you have dispensed. The Prescription Review Help Desk and Health Information Designs can assist you with finding the correct number. You can contact them at wapmp-info@hidinc.com or 877-719-3121.

How do we report compounded drugs?

See [Appendix A of the Dispenser's Implementation Guide](#) on how to report this data. If you use a software system to track your dispensing records, use the compound drug information segment in the data format. If you are using the Universal Claim Form to report then provide only the NDC number and quantity of the controlled substance within the compound.

How will communication and tutorials be shared?

Via [email listserv updates](#) and posted on www.wapmp.org when available.

Resources

For Clinicians

- Washington State Department of Health's Provider factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Provider_Factsheet.pdf
- Washington State Department of Health's Dispenser factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Dispenser_Factsheet.pdf
- AVMA Guidelines for Veterinary Prescription Drugs: www.avma.org/issues/policy/prescription_drugs.asp
- WSVMA Factsheet: <http://wsvma.org/associations/2620/files/WA%20PMP%20Information%20for%20Veterinarians.pdf>

For Clients

- Washington State Department of Health's Public Factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Public_Factsheet.pdf
- Department of Behavioral Health Services, Substance Abuse Services: www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/da_information.shtml
- Directory of Washington Treatment Services: www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/dadirectory.shtml
- National Institute of Drug Abuse — Patient tools and factsheets: www.nida.nih.gov/DrugPages/prescription.html