



State PMP Laws that Explicitly Do Not Require Prescribers and/or Pharmacists to Access PMP Information

Research current through May 2016.

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Introduction

This memorandum is a compilation of statutes and regulations for states that explicitly state that health care providers (i.e., prescribers or practitioners) and/or dispensers are not required to access the prescription monitoring program. This should not be taken to mean that if a state is not listed in this compilation that prescribers and dispensers are required to query the prescription monitoring program.

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Alabama
§ 20-2-214

Code of Alabama (2016)
Title 20. Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics.
Chapter 2. Controlled Substances.
Article 10. . Controlled Substances Prescription Database.

§ 20-2-214. Limited access to database permitted for certain persons or entities.

The following persons or entities shall be permitted access to the information in the controlled substances database, subject to the limitations indicated below:

(1) Authorized representatives of the certifying boards, provided, however, that access shall be limited to information concerning the licensees of the certifying board, however, authorized representatives from the Board of Medical Examiners may access the database to inquire about certified registered nurse practitioners (CRNPs), or certified nurse midwives (CNMs) that hold a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(2) A licensed practitioner approved by the department who has authority to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances. The licensed practitioner's access shall be limited to information concerning himself or herself, registrants who possess a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate over whom the practitioner exercises physician supervision or with whom they have a joint practice agreement, a certified registered nurse practitioner and a certified nurse midwife with a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate over whom the practitioner exercises professional oversight and direction pursuant to an approved collaborative practice agreement, a current patient of the practitioner, and individuals seeking treatment from the practitioner. **Practitioners shall have no requirement or obligation, under this article, to access or check the information in the controlled substances database prior to prescribing, dispensing, or administering medications or as part of their professional practice. However, the applicable licensing boards, in their discretion, may impose such a requirement or obligation by regulations.**

(3) A licensed physician approved by the department who has authority to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances may designate up to two employees who may access the database on the physician's behalf.

(4) A licensed certified registered nurse practitioner or a licensed certified nurse midwife approved by the department who is authorized to prescribe, administer, or dispense pursuant to a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate; provided, however, that such access shall be limited to information concerning a current or prospective patient of the registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife.

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(5) A licensed assistant to physician approved by the department who is authorized to prescribe, administer, or dispense pursuant to a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate; provided, however, that such access shall be limited to information concerning a current patient of the assistant to the physician or an individual seeking treatment from the assistant to physician.

(6) A licensed pharmacist approved by the department, provided, however, that such access is limited to information related to the patient or prescribing practitioner designated on a controlled substance prescription that a pharmacist has been asked to fill. **Pharmacists shall have no requirement or obligation to access or check the information in the controlled substances database prior to dispensing or administering medications or as part of their professional practices.**

(7) State and local law enforcement authorities as authorized under Section 20-2-91, and federal law enforcement authorities authorized to access prescription information upon application to the department accompanied by a declaration that probable cause exists for the use of the requested information.

(8) Employees of the department and consultants engaged by the department for operational and review purposes.

(9) The prescription drug monitoring program of any of the other states or territories of the United States, if recognized by the Alliance for Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs under procedures developed by the United States Department of Justice or the Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute or successor entity subject to or consistent with limitations for access prescribed by this chapter for the Alabama Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(10) Authorized representatives of the Alabama Medicaid Agency; provided, however, that access shall be limited to inquiries concerning possible misuse or abuse of controlled substances by Medicaid recipients.

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Alaska

§ 17.30.200 (eff. until July 16, 2017)

12 AAC 52.855

West's Alaska Statutes Annotated (2016)

Title 17. Food and Drugs

Chapter 30. Controlled Substances

Article 5. Controlled Substance Prescription Database

§ 17.30.200. Controlled substance prescription database

<Text of Section Effective until July 16, 2017>

...

(h) An individual who has submitted information to the database in accordance with this section may not be held civilly liable for having submitted the information. **Nothing in this section requires or obligates a dispenser or practitioner to access or check the database before dispensing, prescribing, or administering a medication, or providing medical care to a person.** Dispensers or practitioners may not be held civilly liable for damages for accessing or failing to access the information in the database.

...

Alaska Administrative Code (2016)

Title 12. Professional and Vocational Regulations

Part 1. Boards and Commissions Subject to Centralized Licensing

Chapter 52. Board of Pharmacy

Article 9. Controlled Substance Prescription Database

...

(d) Nothing in this section requires a pharmacist or practitioner to receive information from the controlled substance prescription database or to request a patient profile from the board.

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District of Columbia
17 ADC 10300

West's District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (2016)
Title 17. Business, Occupations, and Professionals
Chapter 103. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

10300. GENERAL PROVISIONS

10300.1 The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (Program) shall employ information technology necessary for dispensers to report the prescription monitoring data set forth in § 10301.4 to the Program.

10300.2 A prescriber or dispenser:

(a) Is not required or obligated to access or use the prescription monitoring data available under the Program; and

(b) When acting in good faith, is not subject to liability or disciplinary action arising solely from:

(1) Requesting or receiving, or failing to request or receive, prescription monitoring data from the Program; or

(2) Acting, or failing to act, on the basis of prescription monitoring data provided by the Program.

10300.3 The Program shall retain prescription monitoring data for at least three (3) years from the date of receipt.

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Georgia
§ 16-13-63

West's Code of Georgia Annotated (2016)
Title 16. Crimes and Offenses
Chapter 13. Controlled Substances
Article 2. Regulation of Controlled Substances
Part 2. Electronic Data Base of Prescription Information

§ 16-13-63. Civil liability

(a) Nothing in this part shall require a dispenser or prescriber to obtain information about a patient from the program established pursuant to this part. A dispenser or prescriber shall not have a duty and shall not be held civilly liable for damages to any person in any civil or administrative action or criminally responsible for injury, death, or loss to person or property on the basis that the dispenser or prescriber did or did not seek or obtain information from the electronic data base established pursuant to Code Section 16-13-57. Nothing in this part shall create a private cause of action against a prescriber or dispenser.

(b) A dispenser or prescriber acting in good faith shall not be held civilly liable for damages to any person in any civil or administrative action or criminally responsible for injury, death, or loss to person or property for receiving or using information from the electronic data base established pursuant to Code Section 16-13-57.

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Illinois

720 § 570/314.5

720 § 570/318

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated (2016)

Chapter 720. Criminal Offenses

Offenses Against the Public

Act 570. Illinois Controlled Substances Act

Article III. Registration and Control of Manufacture, Distribution and Dispensing

570/314.5. Medication shopping; pharmacy shopping

§ 314.5. Medication shopping; pharmacy shopping.

...

(e) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to create a requirement that any prescriber, dispenser, or pharmacist request any patient medication disclosure, report any patient activity, or prescribe or refuse to prescribe or dispense any medications.

...

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated (2016)

Chapter 720. Criminal Offenses

Offenses Against the Public

Act 570. Illinois Controlled Substances Act

Article III. Registration and Control of Manufacture, Distribution and Dispensing

570/318. Confidentiality of information

§ 318. Confidentiality of information.

...

(j) Based upon federal, initial and maintenance funding, a prescriber and dispenser inquiry system shall be developed to assist the health care community in its goal of effective clinical practice and to prevent patients from diverting or abusing medications.

...

(7) Nothing in this Act or Illinois law shall be construed to require a prescriber or dispenser to make use of this inquiry system.

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Indiana
§ 35-48-7-11.1

West's Annotated Indiana Code (2016)
Title 35. Criminal Law and Procedure
Article 48. Controlled Substances
Chapter 7. Central Repository for Controlled Substances Data

§ 35-48-7-11.1 INSPECT program; confidentiality

Sec. 11.1. (a) Information received by the INSPECT program under section 8.1 of this chapter is confidential.

...

(k) Except as provided in IC 25-22.5-13, this section may not be construed to require a practitioner to obtain information about a patient from the data base.

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Iowa
§ 124.553

Iowa Code Annotated (2016)
Title IV. Public Health
Subtitle 1. Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances
Chapter 124. Controlled Substances
Division VI. Drug Prescribing and Dispensing--Information Program

§ 124.553. Information access

...

6. Nothing in this section shall require a pharmacist or prescribing practitioner to obtain information about a patient from the program. A pharmacist or prescribing practitioner does not have a duty and shall not be held liable in damages to any person in any civil or derivative criminal or administrative action for injury, death, or loss to person or property on the basis that the pharmacist or prescribing practitioner did or did not seek or obtain or use information from the program. A pharmacist or prescribing practitioner acting reasonably and in good faith is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for requesting or receiving or using information from the program.

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Kansas
§ 65-1688

West's Kansas Statutes Annotated (2016)
Chapter 65. Public Health
Article 16. Regulation of Pharmacists

§ 65-1688. Same; act does not create civil liability or duty

No person authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern shall be liable to any person in a civil action for damages or other relief for injury, death or loss to person or property on the basis that such person authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern did or did not seek or obtain information from the prescription monitoring program prior to prescribing or dispensing scheduled substances and drug of concern to a patient. **Nothing in this act shall be construed to create a duty or otherwise require a person authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drug of concern to obtain information about a patient from the prescription monitoring program prior to prescribing or dispensing scheduled substances and drug of concern to such patient.**

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Maryland
Health-General § 21-2A-04 (eff. until Sept. 30, 2016)
ADC 10.47.07.09

West's Annotated Code of Maryland (2016)
Health--General
Title 21. Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics
Subtitle 2A. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

§ 21-2A-04. Regulations

<Text of Section Effective until September 30, 2016>

In general

(a) The Secretary, in consultation with the Board, shall adopt regulations to carry out this subtitle.

Scope of regulations

(b) The regulations adopted by the Secretary shall:

...

(4) Specify that a prescriber or dispenser is not required or obligated to access or use prescription monitoring data available under the Program;

...

Code of Maryland Regulations (2016)
Title 10. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Subtitle 47. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration
Chapter 07. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

.09 General Provisions.

...

C. A prescriber or dispenser:

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(1) Is not required or obligated to access or use the prescription monitoring data available under the Program; and

(2) When acting in good faith, is not subject to liability or disciplinary action arising solely from:

(a) Requesting or receiving, or failing to request or receive, prescription monitoring data from the Program; or

(b) Acting, or failing to act, on the basis of prescription monitoring data provided by the Program.

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Minnesota

§ 152.126 (eff. until July 31, 2016)

§ 152.126 (eff. August 1, 2016)

Minnesota Statutes Annotated (2014)

Health (Ch. 144-159)

Chapter 152. Drugs; Controlled Substances

Prescriptions

§ 152.126. Controlled substances prescription electronic reporting system

<Text of Section Effective until July 31, 2016>

...

Subd. 9. Immunity from liability; no requirement to obtain information. (a) A pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser making a report to the program in good faith under this section is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability, which might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of the report, or on the basis that the pharmacist or prescriber did or did not seek or obtain or use information from the program.

(b) Nothing in this section shall require a pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser to obtain information about a patient from the program, and the pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser, if acting in good faith, is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for requesting, receiving, or using information from the program.

Minnesota Statutes Annotated (2016)

Health (Ch. 144-159)

Chapter 152. Drugs; Controlled Substances

Prescriptions

§ 152.126. Prescription monitoring program

<Text of Section Effective August 1, 2016>

...

Subd. 9. Immunity from liability; no requirement to obtain information. (a) A pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser making a report to the program in good faith under this section is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability, which might otherwise be incurred

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or imposed as a result of the report, or on the basis that the pharmacist or prescriber did or did not seek or obtain or use information from the program.

(b) Nothing in this section shall require a pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser to obtain information about a patient from the program, and the pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser, if acting in good faith, is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for requesting, receiving, or using information from the program.

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North Dakota
§ 19-03.5-05

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated (2015)
Title 19. Foods, Drugs, Oils, and Compounds
Chapter 19-03.5. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

§ 19-03.5-05. Immunity

Nothing in this chapter requires a prescriber or dispenser to obtain information about a patient from the central repository prior to prescribing or dispensing a controlled substance. A prescriber, dispenser, or other health care practitioner may not be held liable in damages to any person in any civil action on the basis that the prescriber, dispenser, or other health care practitioner did or did not seek to obtain information from the central repository. Unless there is shown a lack of good faith, the board, any other state agency, a prescriber, dispenser, or any other individual in proper possession of information provided under this chapter may not be subject to any civil liability by reason of:

1. The furnishing of information under the conditions provided in this chapter;
2. The receipt and use of, or reliance on, such information;
3. The fact that any such information was not furnished; or
4. The fact that such information was factually incorrect or was released by the board to the wrong person or entity.

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Oregon
§ 431A.865

West's Oregon Revised Statutes Annotated (2016)
Title 36. Public Health and Safety
Chapter 431A. Public Health Programs and Activities
Prescription Monitoring Program
(Program)

§ 431A.865. Prescription monitoring information disclosure; limitations

(1)(a) Except as provided under subsection (2) of this section, prescription monitoring information submitted under ORS 431.964 to the prescription monitoring program established in ORS 431.962:

(A) Is protected health information under ORS 192.553 to 192.581.

(B) Is not subject to disclosure pursuant to ORS 192.410 to 192.505.

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South Carolina
§ 44-53-1680

Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976 Annotated (2016)
Title 44. Health
Chapter 53. Poisons, Drugs and Other Controlled Substances
Article 15. Prescription Monitoring Program

§ 44-53-1680. Violations and penalties.

...

(D) Nothing in this chapter requires a pharmacist or practitioner to obtain information about a patient from the prescription monitoring program. A pharmacist or practitioner does not have a duty and must not be held liable in damages to any person in any civil or derivative criminal or administrative action for injury, death, or loss to person or property on the basis that the pharmacist or practitioner did or did not seek or obtain information from the prescription monitoring program. A pharmacist or practitioner acting in good faith is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for requesting or receiving information from the prescription monitoring program.

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South Dakota
§ 34-20E-11

South Dakota Codified Laws (2016)
Title 34. Public Health and Safety
Chapter 34-20E. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

§ 34-20E-11. Immunity from civil liability

Nothing in this chapter requires a prescriber or dispenser to obtain information about a patient from the central repository prior to prescribing or dispensing a controlled substance. A prescriber, dispenser, or other health care provider may not be held liable in damages to any person in any civil action on the basis that the prescriber, dispenser, or other health care provider did or did not seek to obtain information from the central repository. Unless there is shown a lack of good faith, the board, a prescriber, dispenser, or any other person in proper possession of information provided under this chapter is not subject to any civil liability by reason of:

- (1) The furnishing of information under the conditions provided in this chapter;
- (2) The receipt and use of, or reliance on, such information;
- (3) The fact that any such information was not furnished; or
- (4) The fact that such information was factually incorrect or was released by the board to the wrong person or entity.

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Wisconsin

§ 961.385 (eff. until March 31, 2017)

§ 961.385 (eff. April 1, 2017)

West's Wisconsin Statutes Annotated (2016)

Controlled Substances

Chapter 961. Uniform Controlled Substances Act

Subchapter III. Regulation of Manufacture, Distribution, Dispensing, and Possession of
Controlled Substances

§ 961.385. Prescription drug monitoring program

<Text of Section Effective until March 31, 2017>

...

(3)(a) A pharmacy, pharmacist, or practitioner is immune from civil or criminal liability or professional discipline arising from the pharmacy's, pharmacist's, or practitioner's compliance in good faith with this section or with rules promulgated under this section.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a pharmacy, pharmacist, or practitioner to obtain, before prescribing or dispensing a monitored prescription drug to a patient, information about the patient that has been collected pursuant to the program established under sub. (2).

...

West's Wisconsin Statutes Annotated (2016)

Controlled Substances

Chapter 961. Uniform Controlled Substances Act

Subchapter III. Regulation of Manufacture, Distribution, Dispensing, and Possession of
Controlled Substances

§ 961.385. Prescription drug monitoring program

<Text of Section Effective April 1, 2017>

...

(3)(a) A pharmacy, pharmacist, or practitioner is immune from civil or criminal liability or professional discipline arising from the pharmacy's, pharmacist's, or practitioner's compliance in good faith with this section or with rules promulgated under this section.

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(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a pharmacy or pharmacist, before dispensing a monitored prescription drug to a patient, information about the patient that has been collected pursuant to the program established under sub. (2).

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Wyoming
ADC AI PDSC Ch. 8, § 3

Wyoming Rules and Regulations (2016)
Department of Administration and Information
Board of Pharmacy - Commissioner of Drugs and Substances Control
Chapter 8. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Section 3. Solicited Patient Profiles.

...

(b) Pharmacists and practitioners are under no obligation to, but may request patient profiles from the board provided the following conditions are met for faxed (paper) requests:

- (i) All requests must be submitted on a form provided by the board and must be mailed or faxed;
- (ii) All requests must be signed with a manual or electronic signature by the pharmacist or practitioner requesting the information and include the business name/address of the pharmacist or practitioner;
- (iii) All requests must include the DEA registration number for the pharmacy or practitioner;
- (iv) All requests shall include the patient's name, date of birth, purpose of the request, and the date range for the profile;
- (v) All requests shall include a statement indicating a pharmacist/patient or practitioner/patient relationship exists; and
- (vi) All profiles generated by the board shall be faxed or mailed to the pharmacist or practitioner at their business address, and if mailed marked "confidential, to be opened by addressee only";

(c) Pharmacists and practitioners are under no obligation to, but may request patient profiles from the board provided the following conditions are met for online (electronic) requests:

- (i) The pharmacist or practitioner must first register for access to the online system (WORx) using the online registration;
- (ii) The Board staff will verify current licensure, current WY Controlled Substance Registration and DEA number of the pharmacy or practitioner;

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(iii) The Board staff will activate the online access.

(iv) The Board staff shall discontinue access to any pharmacist or practitioner whose license, DEA registration or WY Controlled Substance Registration has lapsed or been revoked or suspended.

(v) The Board staff shall discontinue access to any pharmacist or practitioner who fails to follow the regulations listed in this chapter or W.S. § 35-7-1060.

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