

Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Council State of Louisiana

January 08, 2020

MINUTES

A meeting of the Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Advisory Council scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at the office of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive in Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809, convened at 1:00 p.m. to consider the following:

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order
2. Quorum Call
3. Call for Additional Agenda Items & Adoption of Agenda
4. Consideration of Minutes from Prior Meeting – October 16, 2020
5. Opportunity for Public Comment
6. Review of Program Operation
7. Review of Proposed Revision of PPM.V.A.2 ~ PMP – Advisory Council
8. Review of Proposed Legislation: Legislative Proposal 2020-B ~ CDS Update
9. Review of Rulemaking in Progress: Regulatory Project 2020-1 ~ PMP
10. Calendar Notes
11. Adjourn

Advisory Council Representatives/Designees present: Col. Pete Tufaro (LSP) chaired the meeting. Also present were Chris Melancon (SH&W), Warren Rivera (LSBME), Jennifer Wright (LSBN), Carlos Finalet (LABP) proxy for Carl Aron, Lauren Bailey (LSMS), Lisa Bayhi (LANP), Jonathan Bowman (OAL), Beverly Walker (LPA), Steven Presley (LAPA), Lawrence Alexander, Jr.(DEA), Charles Cravins (LDAA), Traci Perry (DHH), Jeff Gaude (NACDS), and Russell Caffery (LIPA).

Others present: Joe Fontenot, Danielle Hartzog, Nerissa Montgomery (all LABP), Mary Peyton (LSBME), Aurdie Bellard (LPA), and Rachel Smith (LDAA).

Call for Additional Agenda Items & Adoption of Agenda

No additional agenda items were introduced, agenda adopted.

Consideration of Minutes from the October 16, 2019 Meeting

Minutes were approved by consensus with no corrections.

Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments.

Review of Program Operation

Joe Fontenot, Assistant Executive Director, presented the website, www.PDMPworks.org, which was developed in collaboration with multiple state PDMPs. Mr. Fontenot provided the council with an overview as he navigated them through the website, explaining the statistical data on data-sharing on the PMP Interconnect and integration through the Gateway. He informed the council that the website provides resources that may help anyone gain a better understanding of PDMPs.

Mr. Fontenot presented statistical information regarding the program. (**Attachment 1**).

Furthermore, Mr. Fontenot provided an update on the statewide PMP integration project. As of January 2, 2020, the Louisiana PMP is interoperable with 127 licensees (EHRs and pharmacy management systems) across the state. The 127 licensees represent more than 1,250 facilities in Louisiana and are responsible for more than 1,596,083 PMP requests in the month of December alone. There are an additional 177 licensee applicants pending.

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Mr. Fontenot presented to the council an email he received from Dr. Ryan White. (**Attachment 2**). Dr. Ryan White expressed his concerns about two medications, Gabapentin and Promethazine. In his email, he stated that the two medications are highly sought after and prescribers have no mechanism in place to track those medications as they are currently not scheduled drugs or drugs of concern. The council discussed Dr. Ryan White's email and agreed that those medications have a notoriously high risk for abuse. Steven Presley (LAPA) discussed with the council his experience with the two medications through his various Urgent Care practice sites. Mr. Presley stated that if these medications were tracked in the PMP, prescribers would be able to more easily identify if the patient needs the medications for a legitimate reason by reviewing the patient's PMP history. Lisa Bayhi (LANP) motioned to have Gabapentin and all forms of Promethazine added to the list of drugs of concern. Chris Melancon (SH&W) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by majority with one abstention from Lauren Bailey (LSMS).

Mr. Fontenot updated the Advisory Council on the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant for the Louisiana Department of Health – Office of Public Health (OPH). Mr. Fontenot reminded the council that during the last PMP AC meeting he provided an update on the CDC OD2A Grant which was awarded to the LDH contingent upon the PMP connecting to the BJA's RX Check, another interstate data sharing hub. The Louisiana PMP is currently connected to the PMP InterConnect interstate data sharing hub and is successfully sharing with 30 other PMPs. Our statewide PMP integration project is also utilizing the PMP InterConnect to connect to EHRs and Pharmacy Management Systems both in-state as well as out of state. Connecting to the RX Check hub would be redundant and of no value to the Louisiana PMP. The cost associated with connecting to RX Check would be an initial implementation cost of \$60,000 with a \$22,000 per year maintenance. An MOU with the RX Check is required. During the last AC meeting, Mr. Finalet and Mr. Fontenot informed the council that they would carefully review the MOU before it is presented to the Board for its review and possible acceptance. Mr. Finalet and Mr. Fontenot worked with other states, in particularly Ohio in fine tuning the language of the MOU. The revised MOU was presented to the Board at the November Board meeting. Several Board members questioned the costly expenditure; but once they were presented with the facts, decided to move forward with the MOU.

Interstate Data Sharing through PMP Interconnect

Mr. Fontenot reiterated to the council that the Louisiana PMP is currently sharing PMP information with 29 other state PMPs and the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) through the NABP PMP InterConnect (PMPi). (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia)

Update on PMP Enhancements

Mr. Fontenot discussed with the council the new PMP enhancement referred to as "Clinical Alerts." He presented the three components that would cause an alert to be sent to a prescriber. The three components are Daily Active MME Threshold, Concurrent Opioid and Benzodiazepines Use, and Prescriber & Dispenser Thresholds. Mr. Fontenot explained to the council the three notification methods a prescriber receives if their patient(s) exceeds one of the thresholds mentioned above. The prescriber will receive alerts on the AWARDx dashboard, on the patient's PMP report, and an e-mail will be sent to the prescriber once a month for each patient. The Clinical Alerts enhancement was enabled on October 29, 2019.

Review of Proposed Revision of PPM.V.A.2 ~ PMP – Advisory Council

Mr. Fontenot informed the council that the Senate Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs made a request for a need to report the dates of appointment for members of the PMP Advisory Council and their designees. He mentioned a draft P&P Manual revision was prepared. (**Attachment 3**).

Review of Proposed Legislation: Legislative Proposal 2020-B ~ CDS Update

Mr. Fontenot explained to the council the CDS update, and the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy mirrors DEA Scheduling Action. (**Attachment 4**).

Review of Rulemaking in Progress: Regulatory Project 2020-1 ~ PMP

Mr. Fontenot informed the council of the rulemaking in progress. (**Attachment 5**). He explained this regulatory project seeks to amend the Board's rules relative to the state prescription monitoring program, to implement the provisions of several legislative acts adopted in recent years, to identify seven drugs used for the treatment of hepatitis as "drugs of concern", and to repeal redundant rules which duplicate the enabling legislation.

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- With respect to the definitions in Section 2901, most of the defined terms duplicate definitions in the PMP Law (R.S. 40:1001 – 1014). The Board proposes to repeal the redundant definitions. With respect to the term “drugs of concern”, the Board proposes to amend that definition by adding seven drugs identified by the state health department as drugs used to treat hepatitis C. The effect of identifying these drugs as “drugs of concern” will require pharmacies dispensing prescriptions for these drugs to include those dispensing transactions in their automated daily reports to the state prescription monitoring program. Those transactions would then be available for access by the state health department’s epidemiologist as part of the statewide hepatitis elimination project.
- With respect to Sections 2903, 2907, and 2909, these rules duplicate existing sections in the PMP Law; Section 2905 references the pharmacy law which authorizes the engagement of staff for Board operations. The Board proposes to repeal these redundant sections of rules.
- With respect to the new Section 2914 relative to record retention, this rule will implement the provisions of Act 2016-189.
- With respect to Section 2917 relative to authorized access privileges to PMP information, the addition of Paragraphs 5 and 6 will implement the provisions of Act 2017-241; Paragraph 7 will implement the provisions of Act 2018-232; and Paragraph 9 will implement the provisions of Act 2019-80.
- With respect to Section 2919 relative to PMP access registration procedures, Paragraph 1 will implement the provisions of 2017-76. Although this act requires automatic registration of prescribers, the Board proposes to extend the automatic registration to dispensers.
- With respect to Section 2921 relative to methods of access to PMP information, the proposed additions to Subsection B, E, F, G, H, K, L, and M were authorized by Act 2017-241; the proposed addition to Subsection I was authorized by Act 2018-232; the proposed addition to Subsection N was authorized by Act 2019-80; and the proposed new Subsection O was authorized by Act 2012-352.

Calendar Notes

The tentative meeting dates for 2020 were announced: April 8, July 8, and October 14.

Adjournment

With no business remaining, the Council adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are true and accurate minutes.

M. Joseph Fontenot
Assistant Executive Director
Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

Prepared by: Danielle Hartzog, Administrative Assistant, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy