MINISTRY MEDICAL GROUP – Managing Pain, Improving Lives

The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is a centralized database of prescription data for controlled substances that is searchable by patient or prescribing provider. This is a powerful monitoring tool that helps ensure that our patients are safe with their prescription controlled substances.

The Wisconsin PDMP has been active since 2013. As with many first attempts, it suffered from many issues, including complicated login and search features. As of mid-2016 only about 17% of all prescribers in Wisconsin had signed up for the Wisconsin PDMP.

As a consequence of the issues with the PDMP, the Wisconsin Controlled Substances Board built an entirely new and more robust database that will go live in early 2017. This Enhanced PDMP (ePDMP) will have several new features to make it easier to use.

What can you expect from ePDMP?

- A simple registration process that requires only 4 pieces of information:
  - Last name, last 4 numbers of SSN, license number and license type
  - NOTE WELL: ALL providers will need to register for the ePDMP; login information for the current PDMP will not work in the new system.
- The ability to customize username and password.
- Single click login and single click patient look up
- A new alerts feature to highlight problems such as reported overdoses, use of dangerous medication combinations, and high doses of opioids prescribed.
- A map feature to show where patients, prescribers, and pharmacies are located.
- A graph to show daily Milligrams of Morphine Equivalent (MME).

The Wisconsin HOPE Legislation from 2016 included a requirement for all providers to check the PDMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to patients for greater than 3 days. This will start in April 2017 and continue until 2020, when the law will sunset (expire).

There are only 5 exceptions to this requirement to check the PDMP:

1. The patient is receiving hospice care
2. The prescription order is for 3 days or less and is not subject to refill
3. The drug is lawfully administered to the patient such as in a nursing home
4. It is an emergency situation
5. The PDMP system is unavailable due to a technical failure

Prescribers can designate a delegate to look up the information from the ePDMP. Similar to the current system, the ePDMP will require each delegate to register. A single provider can have multiple delegates, and a single delegate can be assigned to multiple providers.

Look for more information on how to integrate accessing the PDMP into your workflows in future communications.

For questions, contact Peggy Lutz, Service Line Director, Pain Management peggy.lutz@ascension.org or Robert Sedlacek, MD, Family Medicine, Merrill robert.sedlacek@ascension.org