



## **Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Committee**

October 20, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Texas State Board of Pharmacy  
via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

#### **I. Call to Order**

Presiding Officer C.M. Schade, M.D., Ph.D., called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

The following Committee Members were present:

- Michael Arambula, M.D., Pharm.D.;
- Troy Fiesinger, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.;
- A.J. Kirk, M.D., F.F./E.M.T., F.A.A.E.M., F.A.C.E.P.;
- Mark DuVernois, D.D.S.;
- Matt Boutte, M.P.A.S., P.A.-C.;
- Doug Read, R.Ph, Pharm.D.;
- Raj Chhadua, R.Ph., Pharm.D.;
- Robert Hutchison Jr., R.Ph., Pharm.D.;
- Cherie Holmes-Henry; and,
- Nora Belcher.

TSBP staff present were Allison Vordenbaumen Benz, R.Ph., M.S., Kerstin Arnold, General Counsel; Megan Holloway, Deputy General Counsel; Eamon Briggs, Assistant General Counsel; B.J. Slack, PMP Manager; Walquiria Sanchez, Staff Attorney; Ann Driscoll, Team Manager; and Heather Hernandez, Data Analyst.

#### **II. Announcements**

Ms. Benz made general announcements.

#### **III. Review of Minutes**

Dr. Schade called for approval of the minutes from the July 20,2020 meeting. Dr. Hutchison made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Dr. Kirk.

The motion was approved by all Committee Members.

#### **IV. PMP Updates by Appriss**

Jacob Cooper, Natalie Browning, Blake McGowan, and Krista Whalen of Appriss Health presented information regarding Prescription Monitoring Program drug trends and usage as requested at the July 20, 2020 meeting.

Dr. Fiesinger requested that Appriss provide a margin of error on the percentage of prescribers who are registered.

Dr. Hutchison requested that Appriss provide a breakdown of types and corresponding numbers of each user role designation in the Prescription Monitoring Program.

Dr. Schade requested clarification on the data for the number of queries and whether there was explanation for the increase in pharmacy queries but not a correlating increase for prescribers.

The Committee further requested statistics to determine the rate of actual queries as compared to all instances when a query of the system would have been required. Appriss informed the Committee that software to calculate these statistics would have to be created and would require funding.

Dr. Hutchison requested a delineation by type of drug for the 30-day Rolling Average chart provided by Appriss.

Dr. Kirk requested that Appriss provide key performance indicators for accessibility and usability of the PMP, including feedback on user experience. Ms. Browning from Appriss said she will provide user data and agreement data with pharmacy chains during the next meeting to get a clearer picture of value metrics for the next Committee meeting.

After discussion regarding delegate access to the system through the Gateway integration, Appriss agreed to provide information on how non-licensed delegates could be identified with EHR vendors and allowed Gateway access.

Dr. Schade stated he would provide survey results regarding the NarxCare score conducted by the Texas Pain Society at the next Committee meeting.

#### **V. Discussion**

##### 1) Status of Mandatory Checking

Ms. Benz presented information on rules regarding the mandatory checking of the PMP.

Mr. Boutte requested information on whether physician assistants are noted in the laws regarding mandatory checking.

2) CareNotes on NarxCare Communication Module

Daniel Fox, TSBP Legal Intern, presented information regarding the implications of the use of the Appriss communications module, CareNotes, and its interaction with 42 C.F.R. Part 2.

After discussion, Dr. Schade entertained a motion to recommend to the Pharmacy Board that further study be conducted prior to implementation of CareNotes. Dr. Kirk made the motion and Dr. Fiesinger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3) Analysis of Controlled Substance Distribution Data Reported by Wholesalers as Compared to PMP Data Submitted by Pharmacies

Following discussion, Appriss offered to present a wholesaler model that two states are currently using which analyzes trends in wholesaler data.

4) Recommendations

The Committee determined they would meet again on Tuesday, January 19, 2020, at 9 a.m.

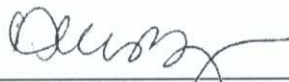
Presiding Officer Dr. Schade adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Approved



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C.M. Schade, M.D., Ph.D.  
Presiding Officer  
January 19, 2021



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Allison Vordenbaumen Benz, R.Ph., M.S.  
Executive Director/Secretary  
January 19, 2021