



## **Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Committee**

**November 17, 2021**

**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:

- Doug Read, R.Ph., Pharm.D.
- Michael Arambula, M.D., Pharm.D.
- Nora Belcher
- Raj Chhadua, R.Ph., Pharm.D.
- 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.
- Cherie Holmes-Henry
- Robert Hutchison Jr., R.Ph., Pharm.D.
- Matt Boutte, M.P.A.S., P.A.-C.
- Adam Bruggeman, M.D.

TSBP staff present were Timothy L. Tucker, Pharm.D., Executive Director/Secretary; Megan Holloway, General Counsel; Eamon Briggs, Assistant General Counsel; Linda Yazdanshenas, PMP Manager; and Lily Moreno, Executive Assistant.

#### **II. Announcements**

Dr. Schade made general announcements.

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

Dr. Schade called for approval of the minutes from the June 16, 2021 meeting. Dr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Boutte and approved by all Committee Members.

#### **IV. Presentation by Bamboo Health (Appriss)**

Jacob Cooper, Sara White, Kara Szabo, Joe Carhart, and Greg Hatcher of Bamboo Health (formerly Appriss Health) presented information regarding the following:

- Outcome studies and value metrics;
- Registration and Account Creation Process;

- Statewide Gateway Project Update;
- Service Level Agreements, including Response Time procedures; and
- Upcoming Initiatives.

Dr. Schade requested a comparison between Texas and other states regarding participation and whether a downward trend in queries was present due to COVID-19. Mr. Cooper indicated he would look into a comparison and noted that the registration percentage of over 90% was likely high compared to other states.

Following review of dispensation trends, the committee members noted discrepancies between the active ingredient data presented and what would be expected due to standards of practice. Mr. Carhart indicated he would review the data source and provide updated information.

#### **V. PMP Funding Update**

Dr. Tucker provided an update concerning funding for integration and NarxCare. He reported that Board staff has researched several alternative sources of funding, none of which have yet been successful. He explained that Board staff has also been advised that funding may be available in the future from the opioid abatement fund and have also been encouraged to reach out to DIR regarding qualifying for cybersecurity funds. Dr. Tucker indicated that both options were being evaluated and that Board staff welcomes any advice for additional sources of funding.

#### **VI. Presentation Concerning Wholesale Tracking Data**

Ms. Yazdanshenas presented a comparison of the information reported to the Prescription Monitoring Program and the information reported to the Texas Wholesale Distributors Database. She explained that the two databases are separate systems. In response to questions from Dr. Schade, Ms. Yazdanshenas explained that the Board is receiving reports from the wholesalers and that the data can be used for investigative purposes. Dr. Schade asked if the wholesale data can be compared to the Prescription Monitoring Program data to identify potential pill mill activity or non-compliance with reporting requirements by determining if the number of controlled substances entering the pharmacy is equivalent to the number of controlled substances being dispensed. Ms. Holloway explained that the Texas Wholesale Distributors Database is not under the purview of the PMP Advisory Committee, so any recommendations would need to come from the Board and would require additional funding.

#### **VII. New discussion items to be place on agenda for next meeting**

Dr. Schade stated that the Texas Pain Society Narxcare survey results would be presented at the next meeting.

Ms. Holmes-Henry requested a PMP integration and Narxcare funding update.

Dr. Kirk requested that the pain and medical examiner surveys be resent.


Presiding Officer Dr. Schade adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

Approved:



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C.M. Schade, M.D., Ph.D.  
Presiding Officer



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Timothy Tucker, Pharm.D.  
Executive Director/Secretary

June 29, 2022