

INTERAGENCY PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM  
WORK GROUP MEETING

Health Professions Council Board Room  
333 Guadalupe Street, Tower II, Suite 225  
Austin, Texas

April 25, 2016

MINUTES

Allison Benz called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Members present representing the Board of Pharmacy (TSBP):**

Gay Dodson, Executive Director  
Allison Benz, Director of Professional Services  
Kerstin Arnold, General Counsel  
Bj Slack, Prescription Monitoring Program Manager  
Cathy Stella, Director of Administrative Services

**Members present representing the Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE):**

Jeff Roach, Investigator  
Lisa Jones, Director of Investigations

**Members present representing the Board of Nursing (BON):**

Dusty Johnson, General Counsel  
Jessica Lance, Assistant General Counsel  
Jolene Zych, Nursing Consultant  
Skylar Caddell, Investigator

**Member present representing the Podiatric Medical Examiners (TSBPME)**

Hemant Makan, Executive Director

**Member present representing the Veterinary Medical Examiners (TVMA)**

Karen Phillips, Director of Enforcement

**Member Present representing the Travis County Medical Examiners (TCME)**

Vickie Willoughby, Deputy Medical Examiner

Ms. Benz presented the minutes of the Interagency Prescription Monitoring Program Work Group meeting that was held January 25, 2016, for review. No changes or corrections were noted.

Ms. Benz presented an overview of how the Appriss program will work and how the various screens in the program will look.

Ms. Benz explained that the TSBP will send out notifications to current users of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) prescription monitoring program and provide them information on how to register with the new TSBP program. She explained that current users will find the process of submitted an application for registration with TSBP very easy.

Ms. Benz reported that training sessions will be held in June and representatives from all the participating agencies will be offered scheduled times.

Ms. Benz explained that TSBP will work with the agencies to provide their investigative staff members access to the PMP database. She explained that agencies will also have the capability of reviewing what their staff members have viewed or downloaded. She reported that Appriss reports are formatted to display on one screen which will greatly improve the search process.

Ms. Stella reviewed the projected PMP budget for FY2018-2019. She explained she is currently waiting for clearance from the Comptroller's office for FY2017 revenue projections.

Ms. Dodson reported that currently the National Association of Pharmacy Boards is covering the cost of maintaining the Interconnect Program but they might have to start charging for this service in 2019.

Ms. Benz explained that currently prescribers are ordering their prescription forms from DPS. She explained that prescribers can continue to use these forms after the program switches to TSBP. She explained that starting September 1, 2016, prescriptions forms will be ordered through TSBP. She explained an example of the prescription form will be posted on the TSBP website.

Ms. Benz explained that she will be contacting the IT representative from each agency to schedule a meeting to discuss uploads.

Ms. Benz introduced Vickie Willoughby, Deputy Medical Examiner with the Travis County Medical Examiner's Office. Ms. Benz explained that the Medical Examiner's office has been added to the Work Group.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.



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## NABP PMP InterConnect Will Remain Free to Participating States Past 2018

June 16, 2016 4:45 PM

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) is pleased to announce that it will provide state prescription monitoring programs (PMPs) with access to NABP's PMP InterConnect® at no cost so states can focus their resources and federal grants to support PMP operations.

Currently, 42 states have executed memorandums of understanding to be part of PMP InterConnect, 33 PMPs are active, and 40 states are expected to be active by the end of 2016. PMPs supply health care providers and appropriate law enforcement agencies with access to a record of patients' controlled substance medication histories. PMP InterConnect enhances the benefits of state PMPs by allowing authorized users in the United States to access PMP data from across state lines, for a more complete patient record.

"NABP PMP InterConnect is the only national network of state-based PMPs. It furthers the mission of the boards of pharmacy and NABP, as well as other state agencies, to protect public health by assisting health care providers in identifying doctor shopping and diversion of controlled substances, as well as confirming which patients are legitimately receiving such prescriptions," notes NABP President Hal Wand, MBA, RPh.

The commitment by NABP to fully support PMP InterConnect will remove any resource roadblocks that states face to identifying patients with prescription drug abuse and misuse problems, especially if those patients are crossing state lines to obtain drugs. Participating state PMPs that use this highly secure communications exchange platform (which does not store data) have access to information that can be an effective means of combating drug diversion and drug abuse nationwide.

Launched in 2011, PMP InterConnect is currently processing more than 2.7 million requests and 4.5 million responses per month for consolidated multistate PMP reports. For more information about PMP InterConnect, visit the [Programs](#) section of the NABP website.

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