



What is the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)?

Washington State's PMP is called Prescription Review. It is a secure statewide online database that collects patient data on Schedules II, III, IV, and V controlled substances. You can find a list of these medications and more information at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=69.50>.

Most states in the U.S. have a PMP, and [more studies](#) are showing their effectiveness. They are intended to improve public health, enhance patient care, and protect public safety.

Can we delegate authority to access Prescription Review?

Yes. A prescriber can delegate the authority to a licensed health professional that works for them (such as a registered nurse or health care assistant). The delegating prescriber must ensure that the employee maintains confidentiality of the information.

Can we print this information?

Yes.

How is patient privacy protected?

Prescription Review is HIPAA compliant. It has built-in security features designed to protect patient information. Only people authorized by law can access personal prescription records.

Do we have to document our actions?

Documentation is not required, but it is recommended.

Is this real-time information or delayed?

There may be a lag of up to one week because information is updated every seven days. Therefore, prescriptions dispensed a few days before your Prescription Review check may not show up.

Is information from adjacent states shown?

Not yet, but it will be pursued in the future.

What if we think a crime has been committed?

If you have reason to believe a crime has been committed, you should consider calling the police.

How do I interpret a Prescription Review report?

Interpretation should be in context of a complete patient assessment, which may include:

- History of risk factors for prescription opioid abuse.
- Physical examination for drug abuse.
- Justification for chronic opioid therapy (benefits are outweighing risks, patient is compliant).
- Urine drug screen, preferably a quantitative test that can distinguish prescribed from non-prescribed opioids.
- Documenting pill count (actual – expected) and early refills.

- Consultation from specialists when indicated or required by the pain management rules.
- Review of outside medical records or contacting other providers.
- Interviews with significant others.

What are the clinical steps in response to concerns raised by Prescription Review report?

- Talk with your patient. Attempt to determine the reasons for the concerning behavior. They can include:
 - Administrative (changed provider, etc.).
 - Under-treatment of pain.
 - Misunderstanding the pain management rules.
 - Prescription drug abuse.
 - Illegal behavior (diversion, fraud, etc.).
- Administer a brief intervention. Express your concern over behavior patterns, discuss risks of misuse and its negative consequences. Clarify your expectations (using one pharmacy, receiving controlled medications from only one provider, etc.).
- Increase patient monitoring and limit-setting. Support patient-provider communication with a [Patient Treatment Agreement](#).

If a problem is found, are we required to explain what we found to the patient?

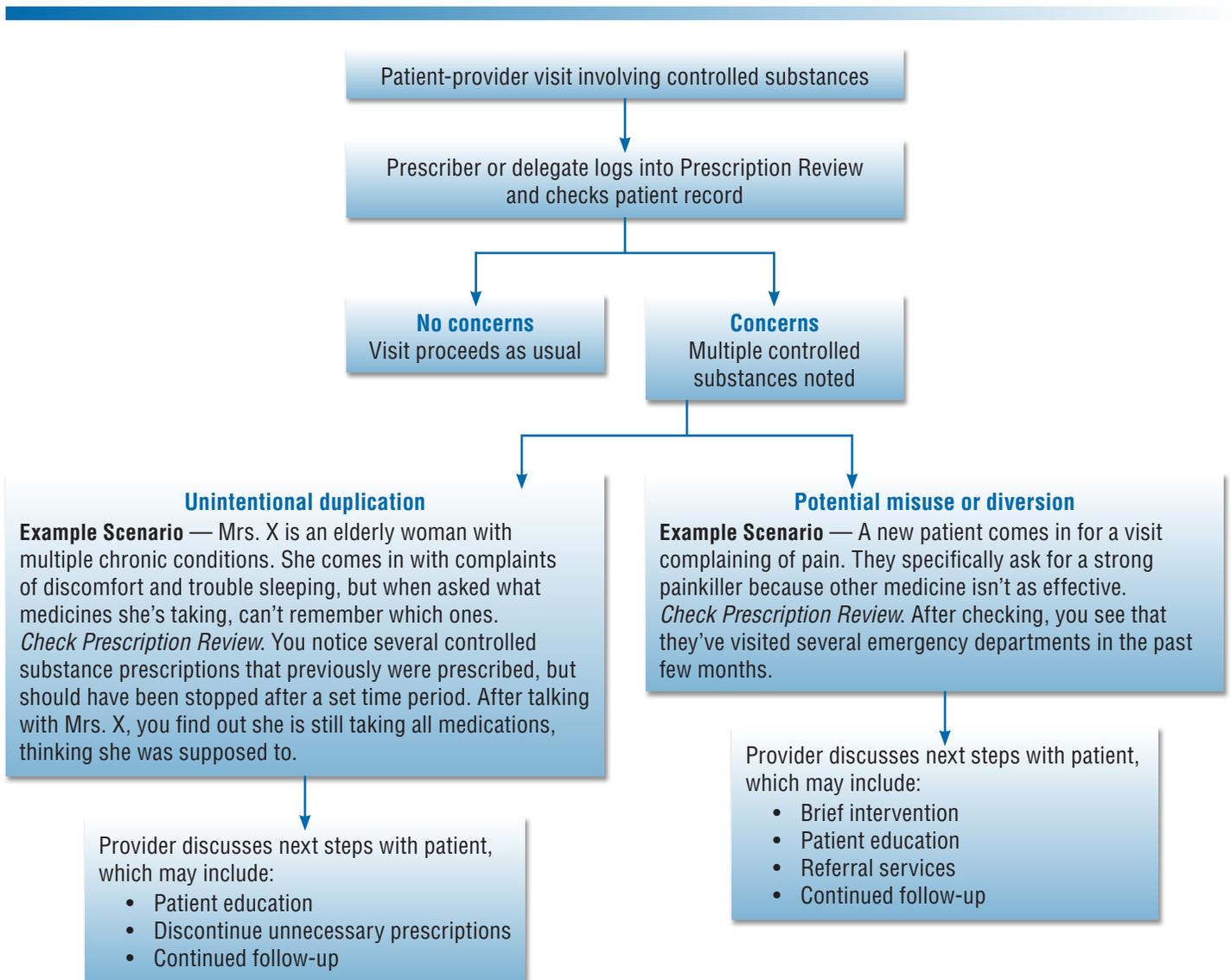
No. It is up to your discretion. You are allowed and able to put a printed copy of the report in the patient medical record.

How will communication and tutorials be shared?

Via [email listserv updates](#) and posted on www.wapmp.org when available.

Who do I contact for technical questions?

The Prescription Review Help Desk (Health Information Designs). Contact them at wapmp-info@hidinc.com or 877-719-3121.



Resources

For Clinicians

- Washington State Department of Health’s Provider factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Provider_Factsheet.pdf
- Washington State Department of Health’s Dispenser factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Dispenser_Factsheet.pdf
- CAGE AID: www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/Files/cageover.pdf
- DSHS Screening Tool: www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/dbhr/da/PocketScreeningGuide.pdf
- DSHS Treatment Services: www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/dadirectory.shtml
- Graded chronic pain scale: www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/Files/OpioidGdline.pdf
- Helping Patients with Drug Use Disorders: <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/pharmacy/Toolkit.htm>
- MED (Morphine Equivalent Dose) Calculator: www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/opioiddosing.asp#CME
- NIDA Screening Tool (PDF): www.nida.nih.gov/nidamed/screening/nmassist.pdf
- Opioid Dosing Guideline and DOH Pain Management Rules Online Activity: www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/activity/start.asp
- Opioid Risk Tool: www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/Files/opioidrisktool.pdf
- Physician Clinical Support System for Primary Care (PCSS-P): www.pcssprimarycare.org/
- Washington State Department of Health Pain Management website: www.doh.wa.gov/PublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/HealthcareProfessionsandFacilities/PainManagement.aspx

For Patients

- Washington State Department of Health’s Public Factsheet: www.wapmp.org/wapmpfiles/Public_Factsheet.pdf
- Prescription Drug Abuse Handout: www.nida.nih.gov/pdf/nidamed/prescription_drug_abuse_download_nidamed.pdf
- Safe Use of Prescription Pain Medication Handout: <http://here.doh.wa.gov/materials/prescribing-pain-medication>