

NAMSDL



National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws

STATES THAT PROVIDE PMP DATABASE INFORMATION TO MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONALS

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Indiana

West's Annotated Indiana Code (2012)
Title 35. Criminal Law and Procedure
Article 48. Controlled Substances
Chapter 7. Central Repository for Controlled Substances Data

§ 35-48-7-11.1 INSPECT program; confidentiality

Sec. 11.1. (a) Information received by the INSPECT program under section 8.1 of this chapter is confidential.

(b) The board shall carry out a program to protect the confidentiality of the information described in subsection (a). The board may disclose the information to another person only under subsection (c), (d), or (g).

(c) The board may disclose confidential information described in subsection (a) to any person who is authorized to engage in receiving, processing, or storing the information.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (e) and (f), the board may release confidential information described in subsection (a) to the following persons:

(1) A member of the board or another governing body that licenses practitioners and is engaged in an investigation, an adjudication, or a prosecution of a violation under any state or federal law that involves a controlled substance.

(2) An investigator for the consumer protection division of the office of the attorney general, a prosecuting attorney, the attorney general, a deputy attorney general, or an investigator from the office of the attorney general, who is engaged in:

(A) an investigation;

(B) an adjudication; or

(C) a prosecution;

of a violation under any state or federal law that involves a controlled substance.

(3) A law enforcement officer who is an employee of:

(A) a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency; or

(B) an entity that regulates controlled substances or enforces controlled substances rules or laws in another state;

that is certified to receive information from the INSPECT program.

(4) A practitioner or practitioner's agent certified to receive information from the INSPECT program.

(5) A controlled substance monitoring program in another state with which Indiana has established an interoperability agreement.

(6) The state toxicologist.

(7) A certified representative of the Medicaid retrospective and prospective drug utilization review program.

(8) A substance abuse assistance program for a licensed health care provider who:

(A) has prescriptive authority under IC 25; and

(B) is participating in the assistance program.

(e) Information provided to an individual under:

(1) subsection (d)(3) is limited to information:

(A) concerning an individual or proceeding involving the unlawful diversion or misuse of a schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance; and

(B) that will assist in an investigation or proceeding; and

(2) subsection (d)(4) may be released only for the purpose of:

(A) providing medical or pharmaceutical treatment; or

(B) evaluating the need for providing medical or pharmaceutical treatment to a patient.

(f) Before the board releases confidential information under subsection (d), the applicant must be approved by the INSPECT program in a manner prescribed by the board.

(g) The board may release to:

(1) a member of the board or another governing body that licenses practitioners;

(2) an investigator for the consumer protection division of the office of the attorney general, a prosecuting attorney, the attorney general, a deputy attorney general, or an investigator from the office of the attorney general; or

(3) a law enforcement officer who is:

(A) authorized by the state police department to receive the type of information released; and

(B) approved by the board to receive the type of information released;

confidential information generated from computer records that identifies practitioners who are prescribing or dispensing large quantities of a controlled substance.

(h) The information described in subsection (g) may not be released until it has been reviewed by:

(1) a member of the board who is licensed in the same profession as the prescribing or dispensing practitioner identified by the data; or

(2) the board's designee;

and until that member or the designee has certified that further investigation is warranted. However, failure to comply with this subsection does not invalidate the use of any evidence that is otherwise admissible in a proceeding described in subsection (i).

(i) An investigator or a law enforcement officer receiving confidential information under subsection (c), (d), or (g) may disclose the information to a law enforcement officer or an attorney for the office of the attorney general for use as evidence in the following:

(1) A proceeding under IC 16-42-20.

(2) A proceeding under any state or federal law that involves a controlled substance.

(3) A criminal proceeding or a proceeding in juvenile court that involves a controlled substance.

(j) The board may compile statistical reports from the information described in subsection (a). The reports must not include information that identifies any practitioner, ultimate user, or other person administering a controlled substance. Statistical reports compiled under this subsection are public records.

(k) This section may not be construed to require a practitioner to obtain information about a patient from the data base.

(l) A practitioner is immune from civil liability for an injury, death, or loss to a person solely due to a practitioner seeking or not seeking information from the INSPECT program. The civil immunity described in this subsection does not extend to a practitioner if the practitioner receives information directly from the INSPECT program and then negligently misuses this information. This subsection does not apply to an act or omission that is a result of gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

(m) The board may review the records of the INSPECT program. If the board determines that a violation of the law may have occurred, the board shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency or the relevant government body responsible for the licensure, regulation, or discipline of practitioners authorized by law to prescribe controlled substances.

(n) A practitioner who in good faith discloses information based on a report from the INSPECT program to a law enforcement agency is immune from criminal or civil liability. A practitioner that discloses information to a law enforcement agency under this subsection is presumed to have acted in good faith.

Maryland

West's Annotated Code of Maryland (2012)
Health--General
Title 21. Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics
Subtitle 2A. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

§ 21-2A-06. Confidentiality of prescription monitoring data

Data not subject to discovery or subpoena

(a) Prescription monitoring data:

(1) Are confidential and privileged, and not subject to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion in civil litigation;

(2) Are not public records; and

(3) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (d) of this section or as otherwise provided by law, may not be disclosed to any person.

Allowable disclosure of prescription monitoring data

(b) The Program shall disclose prescription monitoring data, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Secretary, to:

(1) A prescriber, or a licensed health care practitioner authorized by the prescriber, in connection with the medical care of a patient;

(2) A dispenser, or a licensed health care practitioner authorized by the dispenser, in connection with the dispensing of a monitored prescription drug;

(3) A federal law enforcement agency or a State or local law enforcement agency, on issuance of a subpoena, for the purpose of furthering an existing bona fide individual investigation;

(4) A licensing entity, on issuance of an administrative subpoena voted on by a quorum of the board of the licensing entity, for the purposes of furthering an existing bona fide individual investigation;

(5) A rehabilitation program under a health occupations board, on issuance of an administrative subpoena;

(6) A patient with respect to prescription monitoring data about the patient;

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(7) Subject to subsection (g) of this section, the authorized administrator of another state's prescription drug monitoring program;

(8) The following units of the Department, on approval of the Secretary, for the purpose of furthering an existing bona fide individual investigation:

(i) The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner;

(ii) The Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

(iii) The Office of the Inspector General; and

(iv) The Office of Health Care Quality; or

(9) The technical advisory committee established under § 21-2A-07 of this subtitle for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

Review of requests for information

(c) Before the Program discloses information under subsection (b)(3), (4), (5), (7), or (8) of this section, the technical advisory committee to the Program shall:

(1) Review the requests for information;

(2) Provide clinical guidance and interpretation of the information requested to the Secretary to assist in the Secretary's decision on how to respond to a judicial subpoena, administrative subpoena, or other request; and

(3) Provide clinical guidance and interpretation of the information requested to the authorized recipient of the information.

Persons who receive prescription monitoring data prohibited from disclosure

(d) Except as provided by regulations adopted by the Secretary, a person who receives prescription monitoring data from the Program may not disclose the data.

Disclosure of data for research, analysis, public reporting, and education

(e)(1) In addition to the disclosures required under subsection (b) of this section, the Program may disclose prescription monitoring data for research, analysis, public reporting, and education:

(i) After redaction of all information that could identify a patient, prescriber, dispenser, or any other individual; and

(ii) In accordance with regulations adopted by the Secretary.

(2) The Secretary may require submission of an abstract explaining the scope and purpose of the research, analysis, public reporting, or education before disclosing prescription monitoring data under this subsection.

Injunctive relief

(f) The Office of the Attorney General may seek appropriate injunctive or other relief to maintain the confidentiality of prescription monitoring data as required under this section.

Prescription monitoring data shared with other states

(g) The Program may provide prescription monitoring data to another state's prescription drug monitoring program only if the other state's prescription drug monitoring program agrees to use the prescription monitoring data in a manner consistent with the provisions of this subtitle.

Request and receipt of prescription monitoring data from other states

(h) The Program may:

(1) Request and receive prescription monitoring data from another state's prescription drug monitoring program and use the prescription monitoring data in a manner consistent with the provisions of this subtitle; and

(2) Develop the capability to transmit prescription monitoring data to and receive prescription monitoring data from other prescription drug monitoring programs employing the standards of interoperability.

Written agreements with other states

(i) The Program may enter into written agreements with other states' prescription drug monitoring programs for the purpose of establishing the terms and conditions for sharing prescription monitoring data under this section.

Clinical practice standards

(j) Prescription monitoring data may not be used as the basis for imposing clinical practice standards.

North Dakota

West's North Dakota Century Code (2012)
Title 19. Foods, Drugs, Oils, and Compounds
Chapter 19-03.5. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

§ 19-03.5-03. Access to prescription information

1. Information submitted to the central repository is confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided in this section.

2. The board shall maintain procedures to ensure that the privacy, confidentiality, and security of patient information collected, recorded, transmitted, and maintained is not disclosed except as provided in this section.

3. Unless disclosure is prohibited by law, the board may provide data in the central repository to:

a. A prescriber for the purpose of providing medical care to a patient, a dispenser for the purpose of filling a prescription or providing pharmaceutical care for a patient, a prescriber or dispenser inquiring about the prescriber's or dispenser's own prescribing activity, or a prescriber or dispenser in order to further the purposes of the program;

b. An individual who requests the prescription information of the individual or the individual's minor child;

c. State boards and regulatory agencies that are responsible for the licensing of individuals authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances if the board or regulatory agency is seeking information from the central repository that is relevant to an investigation of an individual who holds a license issued by that board or regulatory agency;

d. Local, state, and federal law enforcement or prosecutorial officials engaged in the enforcement of laws relating to controlled substances who seek information for the purpose of an investigation or prosecution of the drug-related activity or probation compliance of an individual;

e. The department of human services for purposes regarding the utilization of controlled substances by a medicaid recipient;

f. Workforce safety and insurance for purposes regarding the utilization of controlled substances by a claimant;

g. Judicial authorities under grand jury subpoena or court order or equivalent judicial process for investigation of criminal violations of controlled substances laws;

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h. Public or private entities for statistical, research, or educational purposes after the information is de-identified with respect to any prescriber, dispenser, or patient who received a prescription for a controlled substance;

i. A peer review committee which means any committee of a health care organization, composed of health care providers, employees, administrators, consultants, agents, or members of the health care organization's governing body, which conducts professional peer review as defined in chapter 23-34; or

j. A licensed addiction counselor for the purpose of providing services for a licensed treatment program in this state.

4. The board shall maintain a record of each person who requests information from the central repository. The board may use the records to document and report statistics and outcomes. The board may provide records of the requests for information to:

a. A board or regulatory agency responsible for the licensing of individuals authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances that is engaged in an investigation of the individual who submitted the request for information from the central repository; and

b. Local, state, and federal law enforcement or prosecutorial officials engaged in the enforcement of laws relating to controlled substances for the purpose of an active investigation of an individual who requested information from the central repository.

Tennessee

West's Tennessee Code Annotated (2012)
Title 53. Food, Drugs and Cosmetics
Chapter 10. Legend Drugs
Part 3. Controlled Substance Monitoring Act of 2002

<Text of Section Effective Until January 1, 2013>

§ 53-10-306. Confidentiality; disclosure; penalties

(a) Information sent to, contained in, and reported from the database in any format is confidential and not subject to title 10, chapter 7, regarding public records, and not subject to subpoena from any court and shall be made available only as provided for in § 53-10-308 and to the following persons, and in accordance with the limitations stated and rules promulgated pursuant to this part:

- (1) Personnel of the committee specifically assigned to conduct analysis or research;
- (2) Authorized committee, board, or department of health personnel engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of the assigned duties and responsibilities of their employment;
- (3) A licensed health care practitioner having authority to prescribe or dispense controlled substances, to the extent the information relates specifically to a current or bona fide prospective patient of the practitioner, to whom the practitioner has prescribed or dispensed or is prescribing or dispensing or considering prescribing or dispensing any controlled substance;
- (4) A licensed pharmacist having authority to dispense controlled substances to the extent the information relates specifically to a current patient to whom that pharmacist has dispensed, is dispensing or considering dispensing any controlled substance;
- (5) A county medical examiner appointed pursuant to § 38-7-104 when acting in an official capacity as established in § 38-7-109; provided, any access to information from the database shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions of this part except where information obtained from the database is appropriately included in any official report of the county medical examiners, toxicological reports or autopsy reports issued by the county medical examiner under § 38-7-110(c).
- (6) A quality improvement committee as defined in § 68-11-272 of a hospital licensed under Title 68 or Title 33, as part of the committee's confidential and privileged activities under § 68-11-272(b)(4) with respect to the evaluation, supervision or discipline of a healthcare provider

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employed by the hospital or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries, who is known or suspected by the hospital's administrator to be prescribing controlled substances for the prescriber's personal use;

(7) Personnel of the following entities actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of their assigned duties and responsibilities related directly to TennCare:

(A) The office of inspector general;

(B) The medicaid fraud control unit; and

(C) The bureau of TennCare's chief medical officer, associate chief medical directors, director of quality oversight, and associate director of pharmacy; or

(8) Law enforcement personnel; provided, that such personnel are engaged in the official investigation and enforcement of state or federal laws involving controlled substances; and that any law enforcement personnel receiving information from the database pursuant to this section shall comply with the requirements of this subsection (a):

(A)(i) Any law enforcement agency or judicial district drug task force that wants one (1) or more of its officers or agents to have the authorization to request information from the database shall first pre-approve each such officer. Pre-approval shall be by the applicant's supervisor, who shall be either the chief of police, county sheriff or the judicial district drug task force director. The list of pre-approved applicants shall be sent to the district attorney general in the judicial district in which the agency or task force has jurisdiction.

(ii) By December 1 of each year, each district attorney general shall send to the board of pharmacy a list of applicants authorized to request information from the database from that general's judicial district for the next calendar year.

(B)(i) If the Tennessee bureau of investigation (TBI) wants one (1) or more of its agents to have the authorization to request information from the database each such agent shall first be pre-approved by the agent's immediate supervisor and division head. Approved applicants shall be sent to the board by the director.

(ii) By December 1 of each year, the TBI director shall send to the board of pharmacy a list of applicants authorized to request information from the database from the bureau for the next calendar year.

(C) An application submitted by a law enforcement agency, a judicial drug task force or the TBI shall include, but not be limited to the:

(i) Applicant's name; title; agency; agency address; agency contact number; agency supervisor; and badge number, identification number or commission number, and the business email address of each applicant officer or agent, the appropriate district attorney general and, if a TBI agent, the TBI director and their business email addresses; and

(ii) Signatures of the applicant, the applicants approving supervisor and the district attorney general of the judicial district in which the applicant has jurisdiction or the approving division head and the TBI director.

(D) It shall be a duty of the board, as part of its duties to maintain the database pursuant to § 53-10-305(c), to receive and verify the lists of authorized applications sent to it by the district attorneys general and the director of the TBI pursuant to this subsection (a).

(b) When requesting information from the database, the board shall require law enforcement personnel to provide a case number as part of the process for requesting information from the database. The case number entered shall correspond with an official investigation involving controlled substances and information requested should directly relate to the investigation.

(c) The board of pharmacy shall by rule, establish a fee for providing information to a law enforcement agency, judicial district drug task force or TBI pursuant to this section. In determining the fee and type of fee to be charged, the board shall consider options such as an annual fee or a per use, incremental cost basis fee.

(d)(1) Law enforcement personnel and judicial district drug task force agents who are authorized to request information from the database shall resubmit their identifying application information that was submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)(6)(C) to the appropriate district attorney by November 20 of each year. Such resubmitted applications shall be sent by the appropriate district attorney general to the board by December 1 of each year. If during the calendar year a name is added to the list, removed from the list or information about a person on the list changes, the appropriate district attorney shall immediately notify the board of any changes to the list submitted or in the information submitted for each officer or agent on the list application.

(2) TBI agents who are authorized to request information from the database shall resubmit their identifying application information that was submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)(6)(C) to the TBI director by November 20 of each year. Such resubmitted applications shall be sent by the TBI director to the board by December 1 of each year. If during the calendar year a name is added to the list, removed from the list or information about a person on the list changes, the TBI director shall immediately notify the board of any changes to the list submitted or in the information submitted for each officer or agent on the list application.

(e)(1) Information obtained from the database may be shared with other law enforcement personnel or prosecutorial officials, only upon the direction of the officer or agent who originally

requested the information and may only be shared with law enforcement personnel from other law enforcement agencies who are directly participating in an official joint investigation.

(2) Any information obtained from the data base that is sent to a law enforcement official or a judicial district drug task force agent shall also be sent to the district attorney general of the judicial district in which such officer or agent has jurisdiction. Likewise, any database information sent to a TBI agent shall also be sent to the TBI director.

(f) To ensure the privacy and confidentiality of patient records, information obtained from the database by law enforcement personnel shall be retained by the law enforcement personnel's respective department or agency. The information obtained from the database shall not be made a public record, notwithstanding the use of the information in court for prosecution purposes. Information obtained from the database shall be maintained as evidence in accordance with each law enforcement agency's respective procedures relating to the maintenance of evidence.

(g) Any information disseminated pursuant to subdivisions (a)(1)-(6) shall be released to the individual or entity requesting the information by the database manager or by password protected internet access.

(h) Any licensed practitioner or pharmacist receiving patient-specific information pursuant to subdivision (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3) or (a)(4) shall not disclose the information to any person other than:

(1) The patient to whom the information relates and then only for the purpose of adjusting the patient's treatment plans or counseling the patient to seek substance abuse treatment;

(2) Other dispensers identified by the information and then only for the purposes of verifying the accuracy of the information; and

(3) Any law enforcement agency or judicial district drug task force to whom reporting of controlled substances being obtained in a manner prohibited by § 53-11-402(a)(6) is required by § 53-11-309.

(i) If a law enforcement officer, judicial district drug task force agent or TBI agent has probable cause to believe, based upon information received from a database request, that a prescriber or pharmacist may be acting or may have acted in violation of the law, the officer or agent shall consult with the board of pharmacy inspector's office if a pharmacist and the health related boards' investigations unit if a prescriber.

(j)(1) At least every six (6) months, the board shall send a list to each district attorney general containing all requests made for database information during the previous six (6) months. The list shall include the name of the requesting officer or agent, the officer or agent's agency, the date of the request, and the nature of the request, including the case number, for each officer or

agent making a request in such district attorney's judicial district. Likewise, a list shall be sent to the director of the TBI for all TBI agents making requests during the previous six (6) months.

(2) Each district attorney general and the TBI director shall use the list to perform an audit to determine if the database information requests made during the preceding six (6) month period correspond to specific cases under investigation in the applicable judicial district or by the bureau and if the information requested is relevant and pertinent to an investigation.

(3) Each district attorney general and the TBI director shall verify all database information requests contained on the list received and send it back to the board within sixty (60) days of receipt. If a database information request does not correspond to an investigation in the applicable jurisdiction or if the information requested was not relevant or pertinent to the information requested, the district attorney general or director shall so note on the verified list and shall investigate the discrepancy and make a report back to the board within a reasonable period of time.

(4) The results of the audit conducted pursuant to subdivision (j)(2) shall be discoverable by a prescriber or pharmacist charged with violating any state or federal law involving controlled substances or under a notice of charges proffered by a licensing board for a violation of any law involving controlled substances, but only the results pertaining to that prescriber or pharmacist is discoverable. However, if there is an active criminal investigation involving a prescriber or the prescriber is under investigation by the health related boards' investigation unit, the results of the audit conducted pursuant to subdivision (j)(2) shall not be discoverable by the prescriber during either such period.

(k)(1) Any person who obtains or attempts to obtain information from the database by misrepresentation or fraud is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(2) Any person who knowingly uses, releases, publishes, or otherwise makes available to any other person or entity any information submitted to, contained in, or obtained from the database for any purpose other than those specified in this part is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(3) Intentional unauthorized use or disclosure of database information by law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force members or TBI agents shall be punishable as a Class A misdemeanor.

(4) Any law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force member or TBI agent charged with a violation of this section shall have such person's authorization to request information from the database suspended pending final disposition of any criminal prosecution. Any law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force member or TBI agent found guilty of a violation of this subsection (i) shall have such person's authorization to request information from the database permanently revoked.

(5) Where an individual authorized under subsection (a) acts in good faith in accessing or using information from the database in accordance with the limitations under this part, that person shall not incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of that use or access.

(l)(1) The following personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of their assigned duties and responsibilities shall have access to the database for controlled substances prescription information for specific patients:

(A) The chief pharmacist;

(B) The state opioid treatment authority (SOTA) or SOTA designee; and

(C) The medical director.

(2) Aggregate controlled substances prescribing information from the database may be provided upon request by the following personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services, who are actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as provided in this subsection (l), and may be shared with other personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services as needed to fulfill assigned duties and responsibilities:

(A) The chief pharmacist;

(B) The SOTA; or

(C) The medical director.

(m) Where an investigation is conducted under § 38-7-109, and information within the database is obtained pursuant to the requirements of this part, there exists a rebuttable presumption that the county medical examiner is acting in good faith.

West's Tennessee Code Annotated (2012)
Title 53. Food, Drugs and Cosmetics
Chapter 10. Legend Drugs
Part 3. Controlled Substance Monitoring Act of 2002

<Text of Section Effective January 1, 2013>

§ 53-10-306. Confidentiality; disclosure; penalties

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(a) Information sent to, contained in, and reported from the database in any format is confidential and not subject to title 10, chapter 7, regarding public records, and not subject to subpoena from any court and shall be made available only as provided for in § 53-10-308 and to the following persons in accordance with the limitations stated and rules promulgated pursuant to this part, or as otherwise provided for in § 53-10-311:

(1) Personnel of the committee specifically assigned to conduct analysis or research;

(2) Authorized committee, board, or Department of Health personnel or any designee appointed by the committee engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of the assigned duties and responsibilities of their employment;

(3) A prescriber conducting medication history reviews who is actively involved in the care of a patient; a prescriber or supervising physician of the prescriber conducting a review of all medications dispensed by prescription attributed to that prescriber; or a prescriber having authority to prescribe or dispense controlled substances, to the extent the information relates specifically to a current or bona fide prospective patient of the prescriber, to whom the prescriber has prescribed or dispensed, is prescribing or dispensing, or considering prescribing or dispensing any controlled substance. Each authorized individual referenced under this subdivision shall have a separate identifiable authentication for access;

(4) A dispenser or pharmacist not authorized to dispense controlled substances conducting drug utilization or medication history reviews who is actively involved in the care of a patient; or a dispenser having authority to dispense controlled substances to the extent the information relates specifically to a current or bona fide prospective patient to whom that dispenser has dispensed, is dispensing, or considering dispensing any controlled substance. Each authorized individual referenced under this subdivision shall have a separate identifiable authentication for access;

(5) A health care practitioner extender, who is acting under the direction and supervision of a prescriber or dispenser, and only to the extent the information relates specifically to a current or bona fide prospective patient to whom the prescriber or dispenser has prescribed or dispensed, is prescribing or dispensing, or considering prescribing or dispensing any controlled substance. Each authorized individual referenced under this subdivision shall have a separate identifiable authentication for access;

(6) A county medical examiner appointed pursuant to § 38-7-104 when acting in an official capacity as established in § 38-7-109; provided, any access to information from the database shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions of this part except where information obtained from the database is appropriately included in any official report of the county medical examiners, toxicological reports or autopsy reports issued by the county medical examiner under § 38-7-110(c).

(7) A quality improvement committee as defined in § 68-11-272 of a hospital licensed under Title 68 or Title 33, as part of the committee's confidential and privileged activities under § 68-11-272(b)(4) with respect to the evaluation, supervision or discipline of a healthcare provider employed by the hospital or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries, who is known or suspected by the hospital's administrator to be prescribing controlled substances for the prescriber's personal use;

(8) Personnel of the following entities actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of their assigned duties and responsibilities related directly to TennCare:

(A) The office of inspector general;

(B) The medicaid fraud control unit; and

(C) The bureau of TennCare's chief medical officer, associate chief medical directors, director of quality oversight, and associate director of pharmacy; or

(9) Law enforcement personnel; provided, that such personnel are engaged in the official investigation and enforcement of state or federal laws involving controlled substances or violations under this part; and that any law enforcement personnel receiving information from the database pursuant to this section shall comply with the requirements of this subsection (a):

(A)(i) Any law enforcement agency or judicial district drug task force that wants one (1) or more of its officers or agents to have the authorization to request information from the database shall first pre-approve each such officer. Pre-approval shall be by the applicant's supervisor, who shall be either the chief of police, county sheriff or the judicial district drug task force director. The list of pre-approved applicants shall be sent to the district attorney general in the judicial district in which the agency or task force has jurisdiction.

(ii) By December 1 of each year, each district attorney general shall send to the board of pharmacy a list of applicants authorized to request information from the database from that general's judicial district for the next calendar year.

(B)(i) If the Tennessee bureau of investigation (TBI) wants one (1) or more of its agents to have the authorization to request information from the database each such agent shall first be pre-approved by the agent's immediate supervisor and division head. Approved applicants shall be sent to the board by the director.

(ii) By December 1 of each year, the TBI director shall send to the board of pharmacy a list of applicants authorized to request information from the database from the bureau for the next calendar year.

(C) An application submitted by law enforcement personnel shall include, but not be limited to the:

(i) Applicant's name; title; agency; agency address; agency contact number; agency supervisor; and badge number, identification number or commission number, and the business email address of each applicant officer or agent, the appropriate district attorney general and, if a TBI agent, the TBI director and their business email addresses; and

(ii) Signatures of the applicant, the applicants approving supervisor and the district attorney general of the judicial district in which the applicant has jurisdiction or the approving division head and the TBI director.

(D) It shall be a duty of the board, as part of its duties to maintain the database pursuant to § 53-10-305(c), to receive and verify the lists of authorized applications sent to it by the district attorneys general and the director of the TBI pursuant to this subsection (a).

(b) When requesting information from the database, the board shall require law enforcement personnel to provide a case number as part of the process for requesting information from the database. The case number entered shall correspond with an official investigation involving controlled substances and information requested should directly relate to the investigation.

(c) The board of pharmacy shall by rule, establish a fee for providing information to a law enforcement agency, judicial district drug task force or TBI pursuant to this section. In determining the fee and type of fee to be charged, the board shall consider options such as an annual fee or a per use, incremental cost basis fee.

(d)(1) Law enforcement personnel and judicial district drug task force agents who are authorized to request information from the database shall resubmit their identifying application information that was submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)(6)(C) to the appropriate district attorney by November 20 of each year. Such resubmitted applications shall be sent by the appropriate district attorney general to the board by December 1 of each year. If during the calendar year a name is added to the list, removed from the list or information about a person on the list changes, the appropriate district attorney shall immediately notify the board of any changes to the list submitted or in the information submitted for each officer or agent on the list application.

(2) TBI agents who are authorized to request information from the database shall resubmit their identifying application information that was submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)(6)(C) to the TBI director by November 20 of each year. Such resubmitted applications shall be sent by the TBI director to the board by December 1 of each year. If during the calendar year a name is added to the list, removed from the list or information about a person on the list changes, the TBI director shall immediately notify the board of any changes to the list submitted or in the information submitted for each officer or agent on the list application.

(e)(1) Information obtained from the database may be shared with other law enforcement personnel or prosecutorial officials, only upon the direction of the officer or agent who originally requested the information and may only be shared with law enforcement personnel from other law enforcement agencies who are directly participating in an official joint investigation.

(2) Any information obtained from the data base that is sent to a law enforcement official or a judicial district drug task force agent shall also be sent to the district attorney general of the judicial district in which such officer or agent has jurisdiction. Likewise, any database information sent to a TBI agent shall also be sent to the TBI director.

(f) To ensure the privacy and confidentiality of patient records, information obtained from the database by law enforcement personnel shall be retained by the law enforcement personnel's respective department or agency. The information obtained from the database shall not be made a public record, notwithstanding the use of the information in court for prosecution purposes. Information obtained from the database shall be maintained as evidence in accordance with each law enforcement agency's respective procedures relating to the maintenance of evidence.

(g) Any information disseminated pursuant to subdivisions (a)(1)-(8) shall be released to the individual or entity requesting the information by the database manager or by password protected internet access.

(h) Any prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender receiving patient-specific information pursuant to subdivision (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3) or (a)(4) shall not disclose the information to any person other than:

(1) The patient to whom the information relates for the purpose of adjusting the patient's treatment plans or counseling the patient to seek substance abuse treatment;

(2) Other dispensers or prescribers who are involved or have a bone fide prospective involvement in the treatment of the patient, or dispensers or prescribers identified by the information for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the information; or

(3) Any law enforcement personnel to whom reporting of controlled substances being obtained in a manner prohibited by § 53-11-401, § 53-11-402(a)(3) or (a)(6) and required by § 53-11-309, or any agent of the prescriber who is directed by the prescriber to cause a report to law enforcement to be made in accordance with § 53-11-309(a) and (d).

(i) If a law enforcement officer, judicial district drug task force agent or TBI agent has probable cause to believe, based upon information received from a database request, that a prescriber or pharmacist may be acting or may have acted in violation of the law, the officer or agent shall consult with the board of pharmacy inspector's office if a pharmacist and the health related boards' investigations unit if a prescriber.

(j)(1) At least every six (6) months, the board shall send a list to each district attorney general containing all requests made for database information during the previous six (6) months. The list shall include the name of the requesting officer or agent, the officer or agent's agency, the date of the request, and the nature of the request, including the case number, for each officer or agent making a request in such district attorney's judicial district. Likewise, a list shall be sent to the director of the TBI for all TBI agents making requests during the previous six (6) months.

(2) Each district attorney general and the TBI director shall use the list to perform an audit to determine if the database information requests made during the preceding six (6) month period correspond to specific cases under investigation in the applicable judicial district or by the bureau and if the information requested is relevant and pertinent to an investigation.

(3) Each district attorney general and the TBI director shall verify all database information requests contained on the list received and send it back to the board within sixty (60) days of receipt. If a database information request does not correspond to an investigation in the applicable jurisdiction or if the information requested was not relevant or pertinent to the information requested, the district attorney general or director shall so note on the verified list and shall investigate the discrepancy and make a report back to the board within a reasonable period of time.

(4) The results of the audit conducted pursuant to subdivision (j)(2) shall be discoverable by a prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender charged with violating any state or federal law involving controlled substances or under a notice of charges proffered by an appropriate licensing board for a violation of any law involving controlled substances, but only the results pertaining to that prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender are discoverable. If, however, there is an active criminal investigation involving a prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender or the prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender is under investigation by any investigations or prosecutions unit of the appropriate licensure board, the results of the audit conducted pursuant to subdivision (j)(2) shall not be discoverable by the prescriber, dispenser or health care practitioner extender during either such period.

(k)(1) Any person who obtains or attempts to obtain information from the database by misrepresentation or fraud is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(2) Any person who knowingly uses, releases, publishes, or otherwise makes available to any other person or entity any information submitted to, contained in, or obtained from the database for any purpose other than those specified in this part is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(3) Intentional unauthorized use or disclosure of database information by law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force members or TBI agents shall be punishable as a Class A misdemeanor.

(4) Any law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force member or TBI agent charged with a violation of this section shall have such person's authorization to request information from the database suspended pending final disposition of any criminal prosecution. Any law enforcement personnel, judicial district drug task force member or TBI agent found guilty of a violation of this subsection (i) shall have such person's authorization to request information from the database permanently revoked.

(5) Where an individual authorized under subsection (a) acts in good faith in accessing or using information from the database in accordance with the limitations under this part, that person shall not incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of that use or access.

(1)(1) The following personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as a part of their assigned duties and responsibilities shall have access to the database for controlled substances prescription information for specific patients:

(A) The chief pharmacist;

(B) The state opioid treatment authority (SOTA) or SOTA designee; and

(C) The medical director.

(2) Aggregate controlled substances prescribing information from the database may be provided upon request by the following personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services, who are actively engaged in analysis of controlled substances prescription information as provided in this subsection (1), and may be shared with other personnel of the department of mental health and substance abuse services as needed to fulfill assigned duties and responsibilities:

(A) The chief pharmacist;

(B) The SOTA; or

(C) The medical director.

(m) Where an investigation is conducted under § 38-7-109, and information within the database is obtained pursuant to the requirements of this part, there exists a rebuttable presumption that the county medical examiner is acting in good faith.

Utah

West's Utah Code Annotated (2012)
Title 58. Occupations and Professions
Chapter 37F. Controlled Substance Database Act
Part 3. Access

§ 58-37f-301. Access to database

(1) The division shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:

- (a) effectively enforce the limitations on access to the database as described in this part; and
- (b) establish standards and procedures to ensure accurate identification of individuals requesting information or receiving information without request from the database.

(2) The division shall make information in the database and information obtained from other state or federal prescription monitoring programs by means of the database available only to the following individuals, in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and division rules:

(a) personnel of the division specifically assigned to conduct investigations related to controlled substance laws under the jurisdiction of the division;

(b) authorized division personnel engaged in analysis of controlled substance prescription information as a part of the assigned duties and responsibilities of their employment;

(c) in accordance with a written agreement entered into with the department, employees of the Department of Health:

(i) whom the director of the Department of Health assigns to conduct scientific studies regarding the use or abuse of controlled substances, provided that the identity of the individuals and pharmacies in the database are confidential and are not disclosed in any manner to any individual who is not directly involved in the scientific studies; or

(ii) when the information is requested by the Department of Health in relation to a person or provider whom the Department of Health suspects may be improperly obtaining or providing a controlled substance;

(d) a licensed practitioner having authority to prescribe controlled substances, to the extent the information:

(i)(A) relates specifically to a current or prospective patient of the practitioner; and

(B) is sought by the practitioner for the purpose of:

(I) prescribing or considering prescribing any controlled substance to the current or prospective patient;

(II) diagnosing the current or prospective patient;

(III) providing medical treatment or medical advice to the current or prospective patient; or

(IV) determining whether the current or prospective patient:

(Aa) is attempting to fraudulently obtain a controlled substance from the practitioner; or

(Bb) has fraudulently obtained, or attempted to fraudulently obtain, a controlled substance from the practitioner;

(ii)(A) relates specifically to a former patient of the practitioner; and

(B) is sought by the practitioner for the purpose of determining whether the former patient has fraudulently obtained, or has attempted to fraudulently obtain, a controlled substance from the practitioner;

(iii) relates specifically to an individual who has access to the practitioner's Drug Enforcement Administration identification number, and the practitioner suspects that the individual may have used the practitioner's Drug Enforcement Administration identification number to fraudulently acquire or prescribe a controlled substance;

(iv) relates to the practitioner's own prescribing practices, except when specifically prohibited by the division by administrative rule;

(v) relates to the use of the controlled substance database by an employee of the practitioner, described in Subsection (2)(e); or

(vi) relates to any use of the practitioner's Drug Enforcement Administration identification number to obtain, attempt to obtain, prescribe, or attempt to prescribe, a controlled substance;

(e) in accordance with Subsection (3)(a), an employee of a practitioner described in Subsection (2)(d), for a purpose described in Subsection (2)(d)(i) or (ii), if:

(i) the employee is designated by the practitioner as an individual authorized to access the information on behalf of the practitioner;

(ii) the practitioner provides written notice to the division of the identity of the employee; and

(iii) the division:

(A) grants the employee access to the database; and

(B) provides the employee with a password that is unique to that employee to access the database in order to permit the division to comply with the requirements of Subsection 58-37f-203(3)(b) with respect to the employee;

(f) an employee of the same business that employs a licensed practitioner under Subsection (2)(d) if:

(i) the employee is designated by the practitioner as an individual authorized to access the information on behalf of the practitioner;

(ii) the practitioner and the employing business provide written notice to the division of the identity of the designated employee; and

(iii) the division:

(A) grants the employee access to the database; and

(B) provides the employee with a password that is unique to that employee to access the database in order to permit the division to comply with the requirements of Subsection 58-37f-203(3)(b) with respect to the employee;

(g) a licensed pharmacist having authority to dispense a controlled substance to the extent the information is sought for the purpose of:

(i) dispensing or considering dispensing any controlled substance; or

(ii) determining whether a person:

(A) is attempting to fraudulently obtain a controlled substance from the pharmacist; or

(B) has fraudulently obtained, or attempted to fraudulently obtain, a controlled substance from the pharmacist;

(h) federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities, and state and local prosecutors, engaged as a specified duty of their employment in enforcing laws:

(i) regulating controlled substances;

(ii) investigating insurance fraud, Medicaid fraud, or Medicare fraud; or

(iii) providing information about a criminal defendant to defense counsel, upon request during the discovery process, for the purpose of establishing a defense in a criminal case;

(i) employees of the Office of Internal Audit and Program Integrity within the Department of Health who are engaged in their specified duty of ensuring Medicaid program integrity under Section 26-18-2.3;

(j) a mental health therapist, if:

(i) the information relates to a patient who is:

(A) enrolled in a licensed substance abuse treatment program; and

(B) receiving treatment from, or under the direction of, the mental health therapist as part of the patient's participation in the licensed substance abuse treatment program described in Subsection (2)(j)(i)(A);

(ii) the information is sought for the purpose of determining whether the patient is using a controlled substance while the patient is enrolled in the licensed substance abuse treatment program described in Subsection (2)(j)(i)(A); and

(iii) the licensed substance abuse treatment program described in Subsection (2)(j)(i)(A) is associated with a practitioner who:

(A) is a physician, a physician assistant, an advance practice registered nurse, or a pharmacist; and

(B) is available to consult with the mental health therapist regarding the information obtained by the mental health therapist, under this Subsection (2)(j), from the database;

(k) an individual who is the recipient of a controlled substance prescription entered into the database, upon providing evidence satisfactory to the division that the individual requesting the information is in fact the individual about whom the data entry was made;

(l) the inspector general, or a designee of the inspector general, of the Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services, for the purpose of fulfilling the duties described in Title 63J, Chapter 4a, Part 2, Office Duties and Powers; and

(m) the following licensed physicians for the purpose of reviewing and offering an opinion on an individual's request for workers' compensation benefits under Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' Compensation Act, or Title 34A, Chapter 3, Utah Occupational Disease Act:

© 2012 Research is current as of September 18, 2012. In order to ensure that the information contained herein is as current as possible, research is conducted using nationwide legal database software, individual state legislative websites, and direct communications with state PDMP representatives. Please contact Heather Gray at (703) 836-6100, ext. 114 or hgray@namsdl.org with any additional updates or information that may be relevant to this document. This document is intended for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or opinion. Headquarters Office: THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR MODEL STATE DRUG LAWS. 215 Lincoln Ave. Suite 201, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

(i) a member of the medical panel described in Section 34A-2-601; or

(ii) a physician offering a second opinion regarding treatment.

(3)(a) A practitioner described in Subsection (2)(d) may designate up to three employees to access information from the database under Subsection (2)(e), (2)(f), or (4)(c).

(b) The division shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act:

(i) to establish background check procedures to determine whether an employee designated under Subsection (2)(e), (2)(f), or (4)(c) should be granted access to the database; and

(ii) establish the information to be provided by an emergency room employee under Subsection (4).

(c) The division shall grant an employee designated under Subsection (2)(e), (2)(f), or (4)(c) access to the database, unless the division determines, based on a background check, that the employee poses a security risk to the information contained in the database.

(4)(a) An individual who is employed in the emergency room of a hospital may exercise access to the database under this Subsection (4) on behalf of a licensed practitioner if the individual is designated under Subsection (4)(c) and the licensed practitioner:

(i) is employed in the emergency room;

(ii) is treating an emergency room patient for an emergency medical condition; and

(iii) requests that an individual employed in the emergency room and designated under Subsection (4)(c) obtain information regarding the patient from the database as needed in the course of treatment.

(b) The emergency room employee obtaining information from the database shall, when gaining access to the database, provide to the database the name and any additional identifiers regarding the requesting practitioner as required by division administrative rule established under Subsection (3)(b).

(c) An individual employed in the emergency room under this Subsection (4) may obtain information from the database as provided in Subsection (4)(a) if:

(i) the employee is designated by the practitioner as an individual authorized to access the information on behalf of the practitioner;

(ii) the practitioner and the hospital operating the emergency room provide written notice to the division of the identity of the designated employee; and

(iii) the division:

(A) grants the employee access to the database; and

(B) provides the employee with a password that is unique to that employee to access the database in order to permit the division to comply with the requirements of Subsection 58-37f-203(3)(b) with respect to the employee.

(d) The division may impose a fee, in accordance with Section 63J-1-504, on a practitioner who designates an employee under Subsection (2)(e), (2)(f), or (4)(c), to pay for the costs incurred by the division to conduct the background check and make the determination described in Subsection (3)(b).

(5)(a) An individual who is granted access to the database based on the fact that the individual is a licensed practitioner or a mental health therapist shall be denied access to the database when the individual is no longer licensed.

(b) An individual who is granted access to the database based on the fact that the individual is a designated employee of a licensed practitioner shall be denied access to the database when the practitioner is no longer licensed.