



ENHANCEMENTS COMING SOON TO THE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM!

Over the next few weeks, enhancements are coming to the Prescription Monitoring Program. These changes include new legislation and associated regulations, a redesigned triplicate prescription pad, and implementation of an online real-time adjudication system. We believe these changes will greatly enhance the PMP's function.

Real time submission of claims will allow the Program to receive patient specific claims data at the time the drug is being dispensed. This new technology will enable the PMP to alert pharmacists electronically of such things as stolen prescription pads, and possible cases of double-doctoring. These messages will facilitate further conversation among patients, prescribers, and pharmacists.

Electronic submission will also eliminate the current lag between when a prescription is filled by the pharmacy and when the Program receives the data. As a result, more timely information will be available to prescribers and pharmacists. The system will also provide enhanced intervention tracking and reporting capability.

With the implementation of the new PMP legislation, the Program is able to share more information with prescribers and pharmacists. For example, in the future, double-doctoring reports will contain the names of the other prescribers. This information was not released in the past. As well, pharmacists will be able to obtain complete patient profiles with the prescribers and pharmacies identified.

Q & A

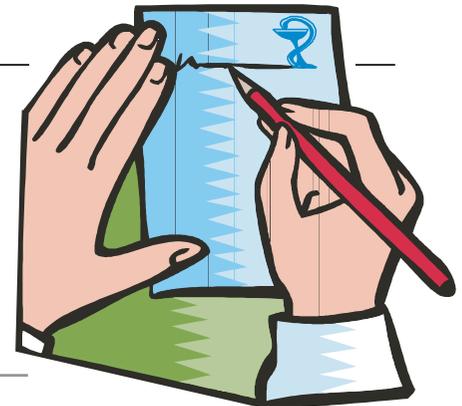
When will the new PMP System be implemented?

Although the new system will be available in the near future, pharmacies, in conjunction with their software vendors, will determine when they will commence submitting claims electronically. Pharmacies will be notified of the specific date when electronic submission can start. A pharmacy will continue to mail prescriptions to the Program until it has converted to electronic submission. Once all pharmacies are submitting electronically, the triplicate form will be reduced to a duplicate form.

When will the new PMP Act and the Regulations become effective?

The PMP Act will be proclaimed in the coming weeks. As a result of the new legislation, representation on the Board will change. The Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia,

“ Electronic submission will also eliminate the current lag between when a prescription is filled by the pharmacy and when the Program receives the data.”



Doctors NS, and the Nova Scotia Dental Association will no longer have representation on the Board.

The Program would like to thank the representatives from these bodies who have been involved with the Program over the past 13 years. In particular, the PMP would like to acknowledge the contributions of Chairmen, J. Patrick King and Don Pamerter. They

contributed wise counsel and countless hours of their time. Their expertise will be greatly missed.

The new Board will consist of 2 representatives from each of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Provincial Dental Board, and the College of Pharmacists; 2 laypersons; and two non-voting representatives from the Department of Health.

The Prescription Monitoring Act can be viewed online at:
www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/bills/59th_1st/3rd_read/b107.htm

What changes will there be to the PMP prescription pads?

Modifications to the existing prescription form are required due to electronic submission. As a result, new prescription

are received. The new system requires pre-printed data on the new pad be submitted electronically; the old pad does not contain this information.



“When prescribing a monitored drug, the prescriber is requested to ask the patient if they can recall receiving another prescription on a PMP form from another prescriber in the previous 30 days.”

pads are being issued to prescribers registered with the Program. The pads are personalized with the prescriber’s name and the address on file with the Program. If this address is no longer valid, please contact the Program to update your contact information. Prescribers will receive one to six pads based on past utilization of the PMP prescription pads.

It is important that all Prescribers discontinue using their existing pads and start using the new pads as soon as they

How do I dispose of old prescription pads?

The PMP asks that your office destroy old prescription pads by shredding or destroying the pads in a manner that renders the prescription pads useless. Please notify the PMP of the prescription pad numbers destroyed so that they can be marked as void in our system. Old prescription pads can also be returned to the PMP for destruction.



Can PMP pads be shared between prescribers?

On occasion, the Program has noted that a prescriber will allow another prescriber to borrow one of his/her personalized prescription forms. **This will not be an option with the new electronic system.** The new prescription pads cannot be shared among prescribers because the claim will reject if the pad number has not been assigned to the prescriber writing the prescription. This feature enhances the security of the PMP pad.

How can a prescriber change his/her PMP contact information?

Please notify the Program of any address change so that your pad distribution address and correspondence address are current. As well, please ensure that you notify the Program if you are leaving the province or are retiring and no longer require pads. If you are no longer writing prescriptions in the province, unused pads are to be returned to the Program.

How do I complete the new PMP prescription form?

All data fields on the form require completion. In particular, **please ensure that the health card number and date of birth are entered when completing the new form.** This information is required by the pharmacy when submitting the prescription electronically to the Program. **Please note that prescriptions will not be able to be filled at a pharmacy if this information is not indicated on the triplicate prescription form.** Completion of this section of the form will help ensure that your patient is not inconvenienced when having the prescription filled. As a result of electronic submission,

it has been necessary to add a number of data fields to the prescription form. A copy of the new prescription form with the new data fields highlighted can be found on the back of this Bulletin. A brief description of the three new data fields follows:

“Have you received a Rx on a NSPMP form from another Prescriber within the previous 30 days?”

When prescribing a monitored drug, the prescriber is requested to ask the patient if he/she can recall receiving another prescription on a PMP form, i.e., a narcotic or controlled drug, from another prescriber in the

previous 30 days. The patient’s response is to be recorded at the top of the form.

This information will be valuable to the pharmacist filling the prescription. When a claim is electronically submitted to the Program, the pharmacist will receive a real time double-doctoring message if the patient has received another prescription for a monitored drug from a different prescriber within the previous 30 days. When the message is received, the response to the question at the top of the form will indicate to the pharmacist whether or not the prescriber was aware of any other monitored drugs received by the patient within this time frame. This information could eliminate an unnecessary call to the prescriber by the pharmacist.

OTHER INDIVIDUALS OR SITUATIONS: INFORMATION TO BE ENTERED ON THE PMP PAD

TYPE OF INDIVIDUAL OR SITUATION	HEALTH CARD #	HEALTH CARD OR CLIENT ID ISSUED BY
Member of the Canadian forces	Enter the Canadian forces ID #	CF
Individual is from out of country	Enter: 0011 984 275	NSG
Drug is being prescribed for office use	Enter: 0011 984283	NSOU
Member of the RCMP	Enter the RCMP ID #	RCMP

PMP ID Number

Each NS prescriber has been assigned a unique PMP identification number. This number appears on the new pad instead of the prescriber’s license number. The PMP ID number will be used by the pharmacy when submitting a prescription to the Program.

Prescribers receiving this Bulletin are also receiving a PMP Prescriber registration form containing their registration information on file with the Program. Please review the content of the form and

What medications does the PMP Program monitor?

Please see the *Drugs Monitored by the Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program* insert included with this Bulletin.

“ The new prescription pads may not be shared among prescribers. The system will automatically reject prescriptions written on shared pads.”

forward any updates/changes to the Program. **Please include your clinical group members – either on the registration form or by attaching your letterhead if that is more convenient. By knowing who is in your clinical group, the Program will become aware of other prescribers who may write prescriptions for your patients.** This information will allow the Program to more accurately identify true cases of double doctoring rather than sending double-doctoring letters to prescribers who share patient files.

Are there any exceptions to using a triplicate prescription form?

As in the past, a PMP prescription form is not required when prescribing monitored drugs to an in-patient of a hospital as defined by the Hospitals Act or a resident of a nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.



“ Please destroy all old prescription pads.”

Which prescribers are required to use a PMP prescription form when writing a prescription for a monitored drug?

Physicians and dentists are required to use PMP pads; monitored drugs prescribed by veterinarians are not monitored at this time.

How do I notify the Program of void or stolen prescriptions?

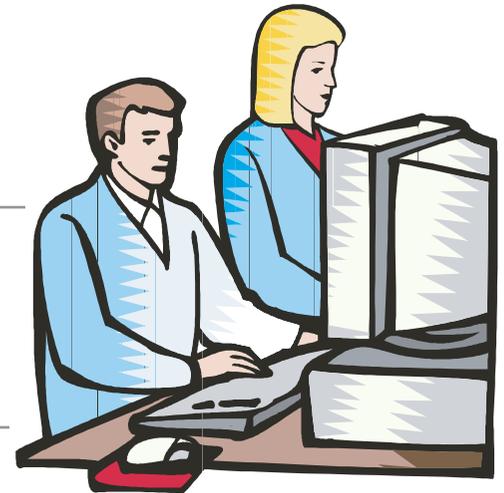
When a prescription form or pad has been identified as stolen, contact the Program as soon as possible. If you leave a recorded message with the Program, please indicate the pad number(s) that have been stolen. The Program will flag the pad number or range of pad numbers in the PMP system as stolen so that the pharmacy will receive a stolen pad message when they attempt to submit one of these prescriptions electronically.

Similarly, if a prescription pad has been lost or damaged, contact the Program. The Program will flag these prescription pad numbers as void. The pharmacy will receive a warning message and be unable to fill any prescription presented to them when the pad number has been identified as stolen or void.

How can I contact the Prescription Monitoring Program?

If you have any questions, would like to update your contact information, or no longer need PMP pads, please do not hesitate to contact the Program.

The PMP can be contacted by email at PMP@medavie.bluecross.ca, by fax 481-3157, and by telephone toll free 1-800-565-8785, or 902-496-7123.



PMP MEDICAL CONSULTANT

Dr. Kenneth Cooper is available for support and counselling to prescribers regarding pain management, abuse, and diversion.

Please call 902-478-0546.

NOTICE TO PRESCRIBERS

Need to order a supply of prescription pads?

You can do so by simply calling PMP at (902) 496-7123 or 1-800-565-8785

Anatomy of the **New** Prescription Pad

PRESCRIBER'S RESPONSIBILITY

***NEW* Record Response**

Patient's Last Name

Patient's First Name

Patient's Address

Patient Health Card No.

Date of Birth

***NEW* Provincial Health Card No. or Other Option**

Numeric Quantity

Alpha Numeric Quantity

Drug ordered, route, time, part-fill instructions (if applicable)

Prescriber's Signature

Date Issued

OTHER FIELDS

***NEW* PMP Identification No.**

Prescription Pad No.

NOVA SCOTIA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM
TAKE BOTH COPIES TO PHARMACY OF CHOICE

HAVE YOU RECEIVED A Rx ON A NSPMP FORM FROM ANOTHER PRESCRIBER WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 30 DAYS? YES NO

PATIENT'S LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

ADDRESS DATE OF BIRTH

HEALTH CARD# SEX

HEALTH CARD OR CLIENT ID ISSUED BY

NS NF BE NB QC ON MN SK AB BC NU NT YT CF NSG NSOU RCMP

ONLY ONE DRUG PER FORM NO REFILLS

Rx QTY. NUMERIC QTY. ALPHA

DRUG ORDERED, ROUTE, TIME, PART-FILL INSTRUCTIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

DR. SIGNATURE DATE ISSUED

Prescriber's Name PMP ID # NS00000000

Address 1

Address 2

Telephone

AREA BELOW FOR PHARMACIST USE ONLY

Rx# PHARM. SIGNATURE

QTY	DAYS	REG #	STR #

DATE FILLED DIN

D D M M Y Y REC'D BY

White - PHARMACY Yellow - NSPMP Pink - PRESCRIBER

PHARMACIST'S RESPONSIBILITY

• Rx Number

• Quantity

• DIN Number

• Pharmacist's Signature

• Days

• Registration Number

• Store Number

• Date Filled

PATIENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

• Received by Signature

PMP

BULLETIN

NOVA SCOTIA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM

Are You Moving?

Prescribers who are relocating to another province are asked to return any unused prescription pads to the PMP.

Contact Us...

E-MAIL PMP@medavie.bluecross.ca

FAX 1-902-481-3157

TEL 902-496-7123

TOLL FREE 1-800-565-8785