

WE ENCOURAGE STRENGTHENING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS PDMP

Opioid addiction is a national crisis.



78 people die every day in the United States, as the result of an overdose of opioid painkillers or heroin.

It is estimated that **4.5 million people are currently addicted** to prescription opioids. Another 467,000 are addicted to heroin.

 **4x**

OF PAINKILLERS (OPIOIDS) SOLD & PRESCRIBED IN THE U.S. BETWEEN 1999-2014

 **5x**

OF OPIOID-RELATED DEATHS BETWEEN 1999-2014

It is also a statewide crisis in Texas

Drug overdose deaths in Texas increased by 80% between 1999 and 2014. There were 2,601 opioid-related deaths in 2014.

That's 7 people dying every day.

The cities of Texarkana, Amarillo, Odessa and Longview have some of the **highest rates of opioid abuse** in the entire country.

From 2000 to 2010, opioid abuse calls to the Texas Poison Control Network (TCPN) **increased 160%**.

A Proven Commonsense Solution: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

In states without legislative mandate to check PDMPs before prescribing a controlled substance, 86% of doctors prescribe an opioid without ever checking the patient's prescription history.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) are state-run electronic databases that collect data regarding controlled substances prescriptions from in-state pharmacies.

They are among the most promising state-level interventions to improve painkiller prescribing, inform clinical practice, and protect patients at risk.

They can identify early signs of addiction, such as doctor-shopping, and can prevent doctors from accidentally prescribing a drug that could be lethal in combination with another drug the patient is taking.

PDMPs Save Lives

More than **600 lives would be saved each year** if every state had a robust PDMP.

PDMPs help identify patients who "doctor shop," who are **7x more likely to die of opioid overdose than those who do not**.



Patients taking both an opioid like Vicodin and a benzodiazepine like Xanax are **4x more likely to die from an overdose**.

Kentucky was the first state to require prescribers use their PDMP. In the first year, opioid prescriptions fell by **9%**.



Every one percentage point reduction in opioids prescribed for chronic pain will result in an approximate **1%-1.2% reduction in overdose deaths**.

SOURCES: VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY STUDY, JOHN HOPKINS STUDY, PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

How many states have these provisions?

9 states comprehensively mandate that prescribers use PDMPs before prescribing controlled substances.

22 states require pharmacies to submit data daily; 27 collect data on a weekly basis or less; and one collects data bi-weekly.

16 states mandate that prescribers use PDMPs under certain circumstances.

17 states proactively analyze and send unsolicited reports to law enforcement agencies.

SOURCE: JOHN HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Help us expand PDMP use in Texas

- Texas currently collects prescription data on controlled substances dispensed by a pharmacies via its Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP).
- With your help we can work with lawmakers and stakeholders to expand usage of the state's PMP.
- Ensure medical professionals at all levels routinely consult the state's PMP to safeguard patient safety without limiting access to medication for those in need of pain management.
- It's urgent—the Texas Legislature convenes on January 10, 2017, and only meets for 140 days. With so much of the state's work to be accomplished in so little time, we cannot afford to waste one day in making our voices heard.

Please visit takeaction.shatterproof.org/txpdmp or text Shatterproof to 52886 to show your support.