

DRAFT

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
VIRGINIA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM
MINUTES OF ADVISORY PANEL**

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

CALL TO ORDER:	A meeting of the Advisory Panel of the Prescription Monitoring Program was called to order at 10:03 a.m.
PRESIDING	Ralph Orr, Director, Prescription Monitoring Program
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Dean Beuglass, Pharmacist, Representative, Department of Medical Assistance Services Dr. William Harp, Executive Director, Representative, Virginia Board of Medicine Sammy Johnson, Deputy Executive Director, Representative, Virginia Board of Pharmacy Blanton Marchese, Citizen Member, Representative, Virginia Board of Medicine Ellen Shinaberry, Deputy Executive Director, Representative, Virginia Board of Pharmacy David Taminger, M.D., Representative, Virginia Board of Medicine
MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
STAFF PRESENT:	Barbara Allison-Bryan, Chief Deputy Director, DHP Josh Boggan, Manager, Case Intake Manager Jim Rutkowski, Counsel, Assistant Attorney General's Office Ralph A. Orr, Program Director, Prescription Monitoring Program Ashley Carter, PMP Deputy for Analytics Carolyn McKann, PMP Deputy for Operations Pam Twombly, Deputy Director, Enforcement
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Mr. Orr welcomed everyone to the meeting of the advisory panel and all attendees introduced themselves.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	The agenda was approved as presented.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	The minutes were approved as presented.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	No public comments were made.

Dr. Allison-Bryan:
**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS
REPORT**

Dr. Allison-Bryan noted that DHP has unveiled their updated and newly designed web site. The Board of Nursing web site is the first to be complete and operational.

Dr. Allison-Bryan reported that two work groups have been formed as a result of this year's legislative session. Dr. David Brown will chair a group on telemedicine. With respect to telemedicine, the language in bills, as introduced in the 2019 session, would have changed the definition of where services are rendered from the site of the patient to the site of the practitioner. This is problematic because, DHP would not have jurisdiction over an out of state practitioner treating a patient residing in Virginia.

Dr. Allison-Bryan will serve on a work group regarding international medical graduates. While there is variability in the quality of training at medical schools internationally, many schools do provide comparable training. The workgroup will identify potential barriers for a foreign medical graduate to become licensed in Virginia. The work group aims to estimate the number of Virginians with foreign medical degrees and desire to become licensed but are currently working outside their field of choice due to these barriers. The Board of Pharmacy (BOP) was asked to report on the status of drug take-back initiatives in Virginia. For example, a Roanoke community coalition has drug collection sites in sheriff's offices and, in Fairfax, efforts are underway to require each opiate prescription be dispensed with a disposal kit.

Dr. Allison-Bryan noted that we anticipate the pharmaceutical processors in Virginia will begin dispensing CBD and THC-A oils approximately four months after being approved to begin production by the Board of Pharmacy. All pharmaceutical processors are required to be prepared for final inspection in December 2019 as required by the conditional permit. The BOP has established procedures by which patients and prescribers must register and is registering and issuing these certifications currently.

Ralph Orr: **PROGRAM
REPORT**

Mr. Orr informed panel members that we are experiencing tremendous growth in use of the PMP by prescribers and pharmacies due to integration. The total number of out of state PMPs with which Virginia is interoperable increased as well. Dr. Taminger noted that his practice recently became integrated and shared the positive impact it has had in improving efficiency. Additionally, this year the PMP will begin receiving CBD and THC-A oil dispensations from pharmaceutical processors. Mr. Orr reviewed the statutory authority for PMP to develop indicators of unusual patterns of prescribing or dispensing and disclose this information to DHP's Enforcement Division.

<p>Ashley Carter: CRITERIA DEVELOPMENT FOR UNSOLICITED REPORTS – PRESCRIBING/DISPENSING</p> <p>Josh Boggan: Intake Case Manager</p>	<p>Ashley Carter reviewed the indicators approved by the panel in the fall of 2018. In November 2018, data was provided to Enforcement based on the two of the five prescriber indicators. The two dispenser indicators were completed for the next round of PMP-initiated investigations and provided to Enforcement in May 2019. Since the panel met in September a new analytic tool became available that better quantifies distances between dispenser, prescriber, and patient. Ms. Carter proposed a revision to the indicator to use mileage between the centroid of each location’s zip code rather than the out of state or health region metric. Ms. Carter then presented an example of how these average distances can be used.</p> <p>Josh Boggan emphasized the Enforcement Division’s adherence to the statutory language set forth in the Code in initiating these investigations of unusual patterns of prescribing and dispensing. The complete prescribing and dispensing data is carefully reviewed prior to proceeding with an investigation. Mr. Boggan further noted that the PMP referred cases are a very small percentage of complaints received by DHP. In the three years since beginning PMP-generated investigations, about 80 cases have been docketed. During the same time period, the agency had over 15,000 complaint-driven investigations. Dr. Taminger recalled the first Advisory Panel meeting in 2016 and the, now unfounded, concern that PMP-generated cases could overwhelm the Enforcement Division.</p>
<p>MEETING DATES FOR 2020:</p>	<p>March 12, 2020; June 11, 2020 and September 17, 2020.</p>
<p>NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon.</p>
<p>ADJOURN:</p>	<p>With all business concluded, the committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;">_____ Ralph A. Orr, Director</p>