



November 1, 2022

Wisconsin State Senate
Chief Clerk
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Wisconsin State Assembly
Chief Clerk
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

RE: Opioid Abuse Reports

Dear Chief Clerks:

The enclosed annual reports are being submitted on behalf of the Wisconsin Board of Nursing, Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board, Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, Wisconsin Optometry Examining Board, the Wisconsin Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board and the Wisconsin Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board, pursuant to Wisconsin Statute s. 440.035(2m)(c)1.

Any questions regarding the reports should be directed to the respective board as follows:

Wisconsin Board of Nursing
c/o Brad Wojciechowski, Executive Director
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Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board
c/o Adam Barr, Executive Director
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Wisconsin Medical Examining Board
Wisconsin Optometry Examining Board
Wisconsin Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board
Wisconsin Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board
c/o Tom Ryan, Executive Director
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Hereth', is written over a white background.

Dan Hereth
Secretary-designee

cc: Robert W. Weinman, RN, Chair, Wisconsin Board of Nursing
Matthew R. Bistan, DDS, Chair, Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board
Sheldon A. Wasserman, MD, Chair, Wisconsin Medical Examining Board
Robert C. Schulz, OD, Chair, Wisconsin Optometry Examining Board
Jennifer Jarrett, PA-C, Chair, Wisconsin Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board
Robert M. Sage, DPM, Chair, Wisconsin Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board

Robert Weinman
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Emily Zentz
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Janice Edelstein
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WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING



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REPORT ON OPIOID ABUSE

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Board of Nursing to Address Opioid Abuse

- 1. Controlled Substances Prescribing Guidelines** – The Board of Nursing adopted Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines on January 12, 2017. The Guidelines were developed using the following:
 - Centers for Disease Control’s *Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain*.
 - American Association of Nurse Anesthetists’ *Chronic Pain Management Guidelines*.
 - American Nurses Association’s *Nursing’s Role in Addressing Nation’s Opioid Crisis*.
 - Federal Drug Administration’s *Blueprint for Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioid Analgesics*.
 - Wisconsin Medical Examining Board’s *Opioid Prescribing Guideline*.
 - Michigan’s *Guidelines for the Use of Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain*.
 - The Joint Commission’s *Statement on Pain Management*.
 - National Transportation Safety Board recommendations for advising patients of the effect-controlled substances may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle.

The Board of Nursing published the Guidelines in their newsletter and provided a copy of the Guidelines to every advanced practice nurse prescriber with an active license and an email on file with the Department of Safety and Professional Services. The Guidelines are available at <https://dsps.wi.gov/Documents/BoardCouncils/NUR/NURGuideline.pdf>

- 2. Controlled Substances Continuing Education** – The Board of Nursing requires each advanced practice nurse prescriber to complete 2 hours of the required 16 hours of continuing education in the topic of responsible prescribing of controlled substances.
- 3. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Information in Newsletter** – The Board of Nursing has highlighted information regarding the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in their newsletter.
- 4. PDMP Prescribing Metrics for Prescribing Practice Complaints** – The Board of Nursing Screening Panel reviews the PDMP Prescribing Metrics Summary for any advanced practice nurse prescriber who has a complaint relating to the advanced practice nurse prescriber’s prescribing practices.
- 5. Membership on the Controlled Substances Board** – A member of the Board of Nursing is designated as a standing member of the Controlled Substances Board (CSB). The CSB is instrumental in the efforts to combat opioid abuse, primarily through its involvement with the PDMP and the scheduling of controlled substances under Wisconsin’s Controlled Substances Act.

2023 Goals for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Nursing

- 1. Compliance with the PDMP Provider Review Requirement** –The Board of Nursing will continue its effort to increase compliance by raising awareness of the PDMP provider review requirement.
- 2. Education** – The Board of Nursing will continue to explore opportunities to expand on its educational outreach in the areas of safe opioid prescribing and opioid abuse.
- 3. PDMP Outreach** – The Board of Nursing will continue to work with PDMP staff to provide information concerning the PDMP to its licensees.
- 4. PDMP Prescribing Outliers** – The Board of Nursing will continue to review referrals of advanced practice nurse prescribers from the Controlled Substances Board to identify those advanced practice nurse prescribers whose prescribing practices are outliers. In addition, the Board of Nursing Screening Panel will continue to review the PDMP Prescribing Metrics Summary for any advanced practice nurse prescriber who has a complaint relating to the advanced practice nurse prescriber’s prescribing practices.
- 5. Controlled Substances Prescribing Guidelines.** Currently, the CDC is working on a project to re-evaluate their Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids. They anticipate to release the updated final Guideline by late 2022. The Board of Nursing will update its own Guideline document to reflect all pertinent updates.

Actions Taken by the Board of Nursing to Achieve the Goals Identified in Previous Reports

- 1. Compliance with Provider Review Requirement** – The Board of Nursing’s goal was to continue its effort to increase compliance by raising awareness of the PDMP provider review requirement. As a means of facilitating this effort, the Board has requested PDMP staff to provide data on waivers for advanced practice nurse prescribers.
- 2. Education** – The Board of Nursing’s goal was to explore opportunities to expand on its educational outreach in the areas of safe opioid prescribing and opioid abuse. The Board has requested PDMP staff to provide opioid abuse statistics coming out of the COVID-19 public health emergency, as the Board anticipates this information will produce opportunities to expand on its educational outreach.
- 3. PDMP Outreach** – The Board of Nursing’s goal was to continue to work with PDMP staff to provide information concerning the PDMP to its licensees. As a member of the Controlled Substances Board, an appointed member of the Board of Nursing, regularly meets with and receives updates from PDMP staff. During the current reporting period, PDMP staff provided the following updates on the enhancement of the Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP) at the CSB meetings January to September 2022:
 - 1. WI ePDMP advanced analytics enhancement:** By removing buprenorphine products commonly used to treat opioid use disorder from the calculation of prescribing metrics and certain patient history alerts, the system has been improved to better capture Buprenorphine prescribed to treat pain and inform practitioners of potential opioid abuse.
 - 2. New pricing models of EHR integration:** DSPTS introduced the elimination of start-up and monthly fees associated with integrating into electronic health record systems, expanding access to the ePDMP while simultaneously combating prescription opioid

misuse.

3. **National Provider Identifier (NPI) to be required for ePDMP User Accounts in 2023:** This requirement will enable the ePDMP to accept dispensing of gabapentin or any non-scheduled drug to be monitored in the future particularly those that are prescribed by a provider who does not have an active DEA number. The NPI key will then be used to match dispensing records when DEA number is not present.
4. **CSB PDMP quarterly reports:** 2021 yearly and 2022 Q1 and Q2 reports were completed and made available on the CSB website.

4. **PDMP prescribing outliers** – The Board of Nursing’s goal was to continue to review referrals of advanced practice nurse prescribers from the Controlled Substances Board (CSB) to identify those advanced practice nurse prescribers whose prescribing practices are outliers.

The Controlled Substances Board referred a total of four Advanced Practice Nurse Prescribers to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) Intake for further proceedings during the current reviewing period.

Matthew Bistan
Chairperson

Shaheda Govani
Vice Chairperson

Herbert Kaske
Secretary

DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD



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Wis. Stat. s 440.035 (2m) 2022 REPORT ON OPIOID ABUSE

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Dentistry Examining Board to Address Opioid Abuse

- 1. Controlled Substances Prescribing Guidelines** – The Dentistry Examining Board adopted Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines (Guidelines) on April 12, 2017. The Dentistry Examining Board previously provided a copy of the Guidelines to every dentist with an active license and an email on file with the Department of Safety and Professional Services. The Guidelines are available at <https://dsps.wi.gov/Documents/BoardCouncils/DEN/DENGuidelinesApril2017.pdf>.
- 2. Statewide Outreach** - Through its partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the Board will continue to develop its established collaborative relationship with the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP). The ePDMP is a tool to help combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. By providing information about monitored prescription drugs that are dispensed in the state, it aids healthcare professionals in their prescribing and dispensing decisions. The ePDMP also fosters the ability of pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies, and public health officials to work together to reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of monitored prescription drugs. More information is available on the ePDMP website: <https://pdmp.wi.gov/>. In addition, the Wisconsin Controlled Substances Board (CSB) Referral Criteria Work Group (also administered by DSPS) uses ePDMP data to determine whether to refer prescribing concerns to the Board. Its Annual and Quarterly ePDMP Reports are published on the CSB website: <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/CSB/Reports.aspx>.
- 3. Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances** – The Board currently has a continuing education requirement in place of 2 hours on the topic of responsible prescribing of controlled substances for the treatment of acute dental pain. This requirement was in effect for the 2019 and 2021 renewal bienniums. The Board has started working on a rule in 2022 to revise this requirement to apply to future bienniums.

2023 Goals for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Dentistry

Goal 1: Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

The Board's goal is to finish its rule project on revising the requirement of 2 hours of responsible controlled substances prescribing to apply in all renewal bienniums moving forward. The Board anticipates that this change will be effective in late 2023.

Goal 2: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

The Board's goal is to, independently and in partnership with the Controlled Substances Board Referral Criteria Work Group, continue to proactively investigate dentists whose prescriptive practices with monitored prescription drugs may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent dental practice. The Controlled Substances Board, in collaboration with the Dentistry Examining Board, will continue issuing a bi-monthly letter to prescribing dentists with 0% ePDMP usage rates, reminding them of their ePDMP review responsibilities related to prescribing of monitored prescription drugs. In addition, the Board will continue to exercise its disciplinary authority to hold practitioners accountable for required ePDMP usage and monitored prescription drug diversion and abuse.

Goal 3: Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

The Board will continue to monitor its prescribing guidelines and make updates as needed to keep it current and relevant to dentists and their patients. Updated CDC guidelines are anticipated to be published in late 2022. The Board will review the update and make any necessary changes to its guidelines. The Board's guidelines can be found on its website: <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/Dentistry/Default.aspx>

Goal 4: Track and Monitor Physician Prescribing of Monitored Prescription Drugs

The Board will continue to explore ways to leverage the expertise of the ePDMP to effectively track and monitor dentist prescribing of monitored prescription drugs and to identify abuse trends. This may include discussions at Board meetings with ePDMP staff and/or review of CSB referrals, PDMP and CSB data and reports.

Action Taken on 2021 Report Goals

- 1. Increase the Number of Dentists Registered with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP)** – The Dentistry Examining Board's 2021 Goal was to increase percentage of total of non-exempt dentists registered with the ePDMP to reach 78.8%. The adjusted rate of PDMP registration is currently 73.5% of all non-exempt dentists.
- 2. Education Regarding Opioid Prescribing** – The Dentistry Examining Board's 2021 goal was to work to expand its educational outreach on the topics of prescribing controlled substances and utilizing the ePDMP. The Controlled Substances Board in collaboration with the Dentistry Examining Board sent a letter to prescribing dentists reminding them of their PDMP review responsibilities related to controlled substances prescribing. This letter was sent in March 2022, with reminders sent bi-monthly to Dentists with 0% PDMP usage rates.
- 3. Controlled Substances Continuing Education** - The Dentistry Examining Board's 2021 goal on controlled substances continuing education was to continue the requirement that each dentist complete two (2) hours of continuing education on the topic of responsible prescribing of controlled substances for the treatment of acute dental pain each biennium in order to renew their license. This continuing education requirement applies to the biennium ending in 2021 and previously in 2019.

Sheldon Wasserman
Chairperson

Clarence Chou
Vice Chairperson

Sumeet Goel
Secretary

**WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING
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Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (MEB) Wis. Stat. s 440.035 (2m) Report on Opioid Abuse – November 2022

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Board to Address the Issue of Opioid Abuse

Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

The MEB's goal was to have rules in place at the beginning of the 2021-2023 biennium that would extend the requirement for the completion of continuing medical education related to prescribing controlled substances through the end of that biennium. The objective of that rule was to continue to advance minimal competence and promote best practices for prescribing controlled substances. The Board is in the process of amending its Opioid CE rule to remove the sunset provision, effectively making the requirement permanent, and to expand the rule to cover all controlled substances, including opioids. In addition, the MEB conducts a random audit of continuing education in each biennium to verify proof of attendance.

Statewide Outreach

Through its partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the Board will continue to develop its established collaborative relationship with the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP). The ePDMP is a tool to help combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. By providing information about controlled substance prescriptions that are dispensed in the state, it aids healthcare professionals in their prescribing and dispensing decisions. The ePDMP also fosters the ability of pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies, and public health officials to work together to reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescribed controlled substance medications. More information is available on the ePDMP website: <https://pdmp.wi.gov/> In addition, the Wisconsin Controlled Substances Board (CSB) Referral Criterial Work Group (also administered by DSPS) uses ePDMP data to determine whether to refer prescribing concerns to the MEB. Its Annual and Quarterly ePDMP Reports are published on the CSB website. At the request of the CSB, the MEB reviewed the current controlled substance scheduling status of kratom in Wisconsin at its September and October meetings.

National Outreach and Leadership

The MEB is a member of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB). The FSMB continues to participate in the Opioid Regulatory Collaborative (ORC), a partnership among state regulatory boards that license U.S. physicians, physician assistants, pharmacists, nurses and dentists, aimed at addressing the nation's opioid epidemic. The FSMB reports that the ORC recently created a resource directory to provide regulators and the public with a list of opioid-related resources from health care organizations, federal agencies, and individual states and territories. In addition, the FSMB Workgroup on Opioid and Addiction Treatment is reviewing and updating several FSMB policies related to opioids, including prescribing, Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) screening and treatment, and physician health. Consultation by the Workgroup involves several perspectives from physicians, patients,

academia, and federal agencies, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Two Wisconsin Medical Board members attended the FSMB Annual Meeting in 2022, which is an educational and networking forum for physician regulators. The topic of opioid prescribing, which a recent FSMB annual survey of state medical boards found to be the most important topic facing state boards, was a key item on the Annual Meeting agenda. Regina Labelle, Director of The Addiction and Public Policy Initiative, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown Law School, was a featured speaker at the Meeting. She discussed new developments in the crisis and emerging strategies in response. The New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners offered a poster display about a new approach to addressing opioid prescribing issues in New Jersey, including a recent rewriting of opioid prescribing regulations that include screening for behavior health diagnoses and suggestions derived from the CDC Guidelines for chronic opioid prescribing. Also, the FSMB plays an important national and international role in providing education on the issue of opioid abuse.

Opioid Prescribing Guideline

In July 2016, the Board issued its Opioid Prescribing Guideline. The Guideline, which encourages providers to implement best practices for responsible prescribing, was developed using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Chronic Opioid Clinical Management Guidelines for Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Patient Care as primary resources. The Guideline was updated in 2019 and remains in place. The Board continues to monitor the Guideline. The Guideline is posted on the Department's website and is available here:

<https://dsps.wi.gov/Documents/BoardCouncils/MED/MEBGuidelinesv9.pdf>

2023 Goals for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Medicine and Surgery in Wisconsin

Goal 1: Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

The Board's goal is to continue to promote best practices for prescribing controlled substances in alignment with current data, including Board evaluation of its 2-hour opioid continuing education requirement and Department review of courses on opioid prescribing that may be used to meet the requirement.

Goal 2: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

The Board's goal is to, independently and in partnership with the Controlled Substances Board Referral Criteria Work Group, continue to proactively investigate physicians whose prescriptive practices with opioids may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent medical practice. In addition, the Board will continue to exercise its disciplinary authority to hold practitioners accountable for opioid diversion and abuse.

Goal 3: Opioid Prescribing Guideline

The Board will continue to monitor its prescribing Guideline and make updates as needed to keep it current and relevant to physicians and their patients.

Goal 4: Track and Monitor Physician Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The MEB will continue to explore ways to leverage the expertise of the ePDMP to effectively track and monitor physician prescribing of controlled substances and to identify opioid abuse trends. This may include discussions at Board meetings with ePDMP staff and/or review of CSB referrals, PDMP and CSB data and reports.

Goal 5: Continued Outreach and Leadership

The Board will continue to explore avenues independently and with other organizations such as the ePDMP and the FSMB to advance its active participation in statewide and national efforts to combat opioid abuse.

Actions taken by the Board to Achieve the Goals Identified in 2021 and Previous Reports

Goal 1: Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

One of the Board's goals in 2020 was to assess the need to extend the requirement to complete continuing medical education related to prescribing controlled substances into the future. **Update:** The Board finalized a rule in March 2021 extending the requirement through the Board's renewal period that concludes in 2023.

Goal 2: Enforcement Action

The Board's goal is to, in partnership with the Controlled Substances Board, continue to proactively investigate physicians whose prescriptive practices with controlled substances may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent medical practice. **Update:** The Board has continued to proactively investigate physicians whose prescriptive practices with controlled substances may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent medical practice. They have done this in response to complaints directly from the public and in partnership with the CSB Referral Criteria Work Group, which reviews reports generated from the ePDMP to determine whether physicians will be referred to the MEB for possible investigation. A total of 36 MEB licensees were referred to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) by the CSB Referral Criteria Work Group as of September 2022.

Goal 3: Opioid Prescribing Guideline

The Board continues to monitor its Opioid Prescribing Guideline to ensure it is current and relevant to physicians and their patients. **Update:** The Guideline was monitored throughout 2022.

Goal 4: Continued Outreach and Leadership

The Board's goal is to explore avenues through which it can continue its active participation in the statewide and national efforts to combat opioid abuse. **Update:** The Medical Examining Board (MEB) appointed Dr. Kris Ferguson, an Anesthesiologist and Pain Management specialist, to serve as the Board's representative on the CSB. The MEB includes a report from the CSB as a standing item on its monthly meeting agendas. The CSB's core functions include oversight of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP), referral of licensees to their disciplinary Boards due to dangerous prescribing practices through CSB Referral Criteria Workgroup, controlled substances drug scheduling, holding an annual hearing with law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to

receive information on drug trends, and issuance of Special Use Authorization (SUA) Permits for controlled substances.

At the request of the CSB, the MEB reviewed the current controlled substance scheduling status of kratom in Wisconsin at its September and October meetings.

In addition, the ePDMP is increasingly important as a means for the CSB and the MEB to address the issue of opioid abuse. The ePDMP publishes quarterly reports and an interactive Public Statistics Dashboard that serve to proactively monitor licensees and their prescribing and dispensing practices for suspicious or critically dangerous conduct and when appropriate, to guide the CSB in its referral decisions. The ePDMP also tracks dispensing trends, such as the top 15 most dispensed monitored prescription drugs, and patient prescription history. Advanced data analytics empower the ePDMP to alert ePDMP users to potential indications of abuse or diversion, such as high daily dose and concurrent benzodiazepine and opioid prescription notifications. The ePDMP also receives referrals from Wisconsin law enforcement agencies. The latest CSB ePDMP Quarterly Report is available on the CSB webpage:

<https://dspd.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/CSB/Reports.aspx>

The Medical Examining Board will continue to develop its online resources through the DSDS website. A link to the ePDMP website is available on the CSB's webpage. Agendas and minutes of MEB and CSB meetings are available on the DSDS website. The MEB's Prescribing Guideline is published on its website. The CSB ePDMP Quarterly Reports and CSB Annual Report are posted on the CSB website.

Finally, the CSB maintains a statutory position on the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA), which provides leadership and coordination of alcohol and other drug abuse issues confronting the state. More information about SCAODA is available here: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/scaoda/index.htm>

Robert Schultz
Chairperson

WISCONSIN OPTOMETRY EXAMINING BOARD

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Jeffrey Clark
Secretary

2022 Wisconsin Optometry Examining Board Wis. Stat. s. 440.035 (2m) Report on Opioid Abuse

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Board to Address the Issue of Opioid Abuse

Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

For the biennium starting December 15, 2019 and ending December 14, 2021, the Optometry Examining Board (OEB) required licensees to complete two (2) hours of continuing education relating to prescribing controlled substances. Reimposing the requirement of a responsible controlled substance prescribing continuing education CE requirement for the future, is currently under consideration.

Creation of Best Practices

The OEB maintains the Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines to keep it up to date with current trends and changes. The Board continues to track changes to the Wisconsin Medical Board's Guideline. The Board's *Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines* are available on the Board's page at <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/Optometry/Default.aspx>. The Guidelines remained in place in 2022.

Collaboration with the Wisconsin Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Through its partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the OEB maintains an established interrelationship with the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP). Both OEB and the ePDMP are administered by DSPS. At its January 20 meeting, the OEB appointed Robert Schulz as its ePDMP Liaison and Emmylou Wilson as its alternate ePDMP liaison. The ePDMP is very well-regarded as a resource in efforts to combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. By providing information about controlled substance prescriptions that are dispensed in the state, it aids healthcare professionals in their prescribing and dispensing decisions. The ePDMP also fosters the ability of pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies, and public health officials to work together to reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescribed controlled substance medications. More information is available on the ePDMP website:

<https://pdmp.wi.gov/>

Education on the Issue of Opioid Abuse

The OEB annually sends at least one member to the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, Inc. (ARBO) Annual Meeting to interact with regulatory colleagues and discuss timely and relevant topics and shared concerns within the optometry regulatory community. The Board

reviews and discusses the ARBO meeting report, which summarizes national issues and trends impacting Optometry examining boards across the jurisdictions. The Board designated member Mark Jinkins to attend the 2022 ARBO Annual Meeting on June 12-14, and he delivered the summary report to the Board at its July 7 meeting.

In addition, the OEB will continue to periodically explore ways to work with ePDMP and other DSPS staff and resources to encourage licensees who have a DEA Registration Number to use the ePDMP effectively as part of their prescribing practice. The DSPS website, which links to the ePDMP website, the CSB webpages and the OEB webpages, will continue to serve as a key resource for prescribers.

Goals for 2023 to Address the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Optometry in Wisconsin

Goal 1: Evaluate the 2-credit Continuing Education Requirement Relating to Prescribing Controlled Substances

Wis. Admin. Code OPT 8.02 (1m) required 2 hours of continuing education on the topic of responsible prescribing of controlled substances for the biennial registration period commencing December 15, 2019 and ending December 14, 2021. The Board will continue to consider a draft of a rule that would reimpose a responsible prescribing CE requirement.

Goal 2: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

Currently, if an investigation of an optometrist's prescriptive practices occurs, it is conducted in response to a complaint filed against the optometrist. When opioid prescribing complaints are filed by the public against optometrists, the Board will actively investigate optometrists whose prescriptive practices with controlled substances prescribing may deviate from the course of legitimate professional practice or constitute a danger to the health, welfare, or safety of patients or the public.

Goal 3: Track and Monitor Optometrist Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The OEB will continue to explore ways to leverage the expertise of the ePDMP to effectively track and monitor optometrist prescribing of controlled substances and to identify opioid abuse trends. This may include discussions at Board meetings with ePDMP staff and/or review of CSB referrals, PDMP and CSB data and reports.

Goal 4: Review and Update the Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines as Necessary

The OEB will review the OEB's *Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines* when needed and make updates as necessary.

Goal 5: Educate Licensees Registered with the ePDMP

The OEB will work with ePDMP staff as necessary to explore possible ways to educate opioid prescribers, including the relatively small number of optometry licensees who have a DEA Registration Number, on how to effectively use the PDMP as part of their prescribing practice. The Board will continue to exercise creative use of the OEB's website and other DSPS website resources.

Updates on Goals from the 2021 Report and Past Reports for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Optometry in Wisconsin

Goal 1: Evaluate the 2-credit Continuing Education Requirement Relating to Prescribing Controlled Substances.

Opt 8.02 (1m) required 2 hours of continuing education on the topic of responsible prescribing of controlled substances for the biennial registration period commencing December 15, 2019 and ending December 14, 2021. **Update:** The Board is considering the possibility of adding a similar CE requirement.

Goal 3: Track and Monitor Optometrist Prescribing of Controlled Substances

Update: The Optometry Examining Board appointed a liaison and alternate to the ePDMP program as principal contacts regarding the ePDMP and opioid use trends.

Goal 4: Review and Update the Best Practices for Prescribing Controlled Substances Guidelines as Necessary

Update: The Guidelines remained in place for 2022. The Board continues to track changes to the Medical Examining Board's Guideline.

Goal 5: Educate Licensees Registered with the ePDMP

Update: A link to the ePDMP website is available on the CSB's webpage. Agendas and minutes of OEB and CSB meetings are available on the DSPPS website. The OEB's Prescribing Guidelines are published on its website. The CSB's ePDMP Quarterly Reports and Annual Report are posted on its website.

Goals from Previous Reports

Goal: The Optometry Examining Board will work with PDMP staff to develop recommendations for licensees who have a DEA Registration Number, which is a relatively small subset of licensees, to encourage them to use the PDMP effectively as part of their prescribing practice.

Update: The OEB will continue to periodically explore ways to work with ePDMP and other DSPPS staff and other resources to encourage licensees who have a DEA Registration Number, a small subset of licensees, to use the PDMP effectively as part of their prescribing practice. The DSPPS website, which links to the ePDMP website, the CSB webpages, and the OEB webpages, will continue to serve as a key resource for prescribers.



Wisconsin Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board (PAACB) Wis. Stat. s 440.035 (2m) Report on Opioid Abuse – November 2022

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Board to Address the Issue of Opioid Abuse

Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

The PAACB is in the process of writing rules that would require the completion of 2 hours per biennium of continuing medical education on the topic of responsible controlled substances prescribing. The objective of that rule is to ensure minimal competence and promote best practices for prescribing controlled substances. The Board is anticipating that their rules will be effective in early 2023.

Statewide Outreach

Through its partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the Board will continue to develop a collaborative relationship with the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP). The ePDMP is a tool to help combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. By providing information about controlled substance prescriptions that are dispensed in the state, it aids healthcare professionals in their prescribing and dispensing decisions. The ePDMP also fosters the ability of pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies, and public health officials to work together to reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescribed controlled substance medications. More information is available on the ePDMP website: <https://pdmp.wi.gov/>

2023 Goals for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse

Goal 1: Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

The Board's goal is to ensure minimal competence and promote best practices for prescribing controlled substances through a 2-hour responsible controlled substances prescribing continuing education requirement.

Goal 2: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

The Board's goal is to proactively investigate physician assistants whose prescriptive practices with opioids may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent practice. In addition, the Board will exercise its disciplinary authority to hold practitioners accountable for opioid diversion and abuse.

Goal 3: Track and Monitor Physician Assistant Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The PAACB will explore ways to leverage the expertise of the ePDMP to effectively track and monitor physician assistant prescribing of controlled substances and to identify opioid abuse trends. This may include discussions at Board meetings with ePDMP staff and/or review of PDMP and CSB data and reports.

Goal 4: Continued Outreach and Leadership

The Board will continue to explore avenues independently and with other organizations such as the ePDMP and the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) to advance its active participation in statewide and national efforts to combat opioid abuse.

Actions taken by the Board to Achieve the Goals Identified in 2021 and Previous Reports

Not applicable as the Board was created in 2022.

Robert M. Sage
Chairperson

**WISCONSIN PODIATRY AFFILIATED
CREDENTIALING BOARD**

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2022 Wisconsin Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board Wis. Stat. s. 440.035 (2m) Report on Opioid Abuse

Proactive Efforts Taken by the Board to Address the Issue of Opioid Abuse

Continuing Education Related to Prescribing Controlled Substances

In June 2021, the Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board (PACB) adopted rules that established requirements for the completion of continuing podiatric medical education related to prescribing controlled substances. The rules became effective in December, 2021. The rules establish a requirement that podiatrists renewing their license on October 31, 2022 complete at least 2 of the 50 hours of continuing podiatric medical education in a course or program related to opioid prescribing. The rules also create a mandatory audit for CME compliance for any licensee under investigation by the Board for misconduct.

Creation of Best Practices

In June 2020, the PACB reviewed and adopted the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (MEB) Opioid Prescribing Guideline dated January 16, 2019. The Board continues to enforce the MEB Guideline. The Guideline is posted on the PACB web page. The PACB will continue to track MEB updates to the Guideline.

Collaboration with the Wisconsin Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Through its partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the Board maintains an established relationship with the Wisconsin Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP). The PACB and the ePDMP are both administered by DSPS. The ePDMP is very well-regarded as a resource in efforts to combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. By providing information about controlled substance prescriptions that are dispensed in the state, it aids healthcare professionals in their prescribing and dispensing decisions. The ePDMP also fosters the ability of pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies, and public health officials to work together to reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescribed controlled substance medications. More information is available on the ePDMP website: <https://pdmp.wi.gov/> In addition, the Wisconsin Controlled Substances Board (CSB) is also administered by DSPS.

Education on the Issue of Opioid Abuse

The PACB will continue to periodically explore ways to work with ePDMP and other DSPS staff and resources to encourage licensees who have a DEA Registration Number to use the ePDMP effectively as part of their prescribing practice. The DSPS website, which links to the ePDMP

website, the CSB webpages, and the PACB webpages, will continue to serve as a key resource for prescribers.

2023 Goals for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery in Wisconsin

Goal 1: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

The Board's goal is to continue to proactively investigate podiatrists whose prescriptive practices with opioids may be inconsistent with the standard of minimally competent podiatric medical practice. In addition, the Board will continue to exercise its disciplinary authority to hold practitioners accountable for opioid diversion and abuse.

Goal 2: Track and Monitor Podiatrist Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The PACB will continue to explore ways to leverage the expertise of the ePDMP to effectively track and monitor podiatrist prescribing of controlled substances and to identify opioid abuse trends. This may include discussions at Board meetings with ePDMP staff and/or review of the ePDMP and CSB data and reports.

Goal 3: Review for Adoption Amendments to the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board Opioid Prescribing Guideline

The Board will review as needed, and, as appropriate, adopt updates to the *Wisconsin Medical Examining Board Opioid Prescribing Guideline*.

Goal 4: Educate Licensees Registered with the ePDMP

The PACB will work with ePDMP staff as necessary to explore possible ways to educate opioid prescribers, including the relatively small number of podiatry licensees statewide on how to effectively use the PDMP as part of their prescribing practice. The Board will continue to exercise creative use of the PACB's website and other DSPS website resources.

Updates on Goals from the 2021 Report and Past Reports for Addressing the Issue of Opioid Abuse as it Relates to the Practice of Podiatry in Wisconsin

Goal 1: Take Enforcement Action When Appropriate

Currently, an investigation of a podiatrist's prescriptive practices occurs in response to a complaint filed by a member of the public.

Goal 3: Opioid Prescribing Guideline

The Board will continue to review and, as appropriate, adopt updates to the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board Opioid Prescribing Guideline. **Update:** No updates were made by the MEB to the Guideline as of 11/1/2022 though it is monitoring CDC guidance. The PACB continues to track and adhere to the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board Opioid Prescribing Guideline.

Goal 4: Education on the Issue of Opioid Abuse

The Board has continued to educate licensees on the requirement to register with the PDMP. The Board's goal is to work with the Department of Safety and Professional Services and the Wisconsin Podiatric Medical Association to provide this education. **Update:** The DSPS website, which links to the ePDMP website, the CSB webpages and the PACB webpages, will continue to serve as a key resource for prescribers.

The PACB is an affiliate of the MEB, which includes a report from the CSB as a standing item on its monthly meeting agendas. The CSB's core functions include oversight of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (ePDMP), controlled substances drug scheduling, issuance of

Special Use Authorization (SUA) Permits for controlled substances and holding an annual hearing with law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to receive information on drug trends.

The ePDMP publishes CSB ePDMP Quarterly Reports and an interactive Public Statistics Dashboard that serve to proactively monitor licensees and their prescribing and dispensing practices for suspicious or critically dangerous conduct and when appropriate, to guide the CSB in making a referral to the PACB. The ePDMP tracks dispensing trends, such as the top 15 most dispensed monitored prescription drugs, and patient prescription history. Advanced data analytics empower the ePDMP to alert ePDMP users to potential indications of abuse or diversion, such as high daily dose and concurrent benzodiazepine and opioid prescription notifications. The ePDMP also receives referrals from Wisconsin law enforcement agencies. The latest ePDMP quarterly report is available on the CSB webpage:

<https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/CSB/Reports.aspx>