



MAG Alert

News from the leading voice for the medical profession in Georgia

MAG reminding prescribers to register for Georgia PDMP

The Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) is reminding applicable physicians to register with the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

Several weeks ago, the Georgia Department of Public Health reported that about 80 percent of affected physicians had registered for the PDMP.

Beginning on July 1, 2018, every prescriber or a delegate will be required to review the information that is in the PDMP before they prescribe a benzodiazepine or a controlled substance that is listed in paragraph 1 or 2 of the Schedule II drug listing in Georgia law. This requirement applies to the first time a prescriber checks the PDMP and every 90 days thereafter. Exemptions include...

- Prescriptions for three or less days or no more than 26 pills
- Instances whereby the patient is in a hospital or a health care facility and the prescription will be administered and used by a patient on the premises
- Instances whereby the patient has had outpatient surgery at a hospital or an ambulatory surgery center and the prescription is for no more than a 10-day supply of a covered substance and no more than 40 pills
- Instances whereby the patient is terminally ill or under the supervised care of an outpatient hospice program
- Instances whereby the patient is receiving treatment for cancer

If a prescriber fails to check the PDMP, they will be subject to Georgia Composite Medical Board disciplinary action – though the Board is still in the process of determining what action it will take. Also keep in mind that physicians can be held liable if they misuse PDMP information, but they will not be held criminally or civilly responsible for failing to check the PDMP.

MAG members can contact Bethany Sherrer at bsherrer@mag.org or 678.303.9273 with questions related to the Georgia PDMP.

[Click for PDMP registration website](#)

[Click for MAG H.B. 249/PDMP Fact Sheet](#)

Medical Association of Georgia
1849 The Exchange, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30339