



Support HB 4124 and Increase Access to PDMP Information and Naloxone

The Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Oregon State Pharmacy Association ask for your support of HB 4124 which will help address the opiate epidemic.

A 2014 report from the Oregon Health Authority declared that unintentional and undetermined prescription opioid deaths in 2012 remain 2.5 times higher than in 2000. In 2012, over 900,000 Oregonians (24%) received a prescription for an opioid. Additionally, the report disclosed that unintentional deaths are not limited to persons abusing opioids. Accidental overdose or a failure to understand to risks associated with combining opioids with other depressants can also result in life threatening situations that are responsive to naloxone therapy.

HB 4124 provides solutions to identified barriers in widespread use of PDMP and naloxone availability:

- Many providers cite the current need to go to a separate website as a barrier to widespread PDMP use and adoption into practice.
- This legislation allows for integration of PDMP information with electronic health records. It maintains the security of patient-sensitive data while, at the same time, providing access through the systems health care providers regularly use.
- The bill allows the integration of PDMP and the EDIE (Emergency Department Information Exchange) information to allow real time assessment of patients visiting the ED more than 5 times per year.
- Availability of naloxone in the community has been shown to decrease unintentional opiate overdose deaths and is safe and cost-effective. In 2013, the Legislature enacted a law that allows establishment of a medically-supervised lay person naloxone rescue program but opportunities for medically appropriate, expanded access to naloxone still exist.
- Making naloxone available through the pharmacist creates many more access points for opiate users and their families to obtain this potentially life-saving medication. This legislation has the potential to save lives from opiate overdoses while maintaining safety for the public.

On behalf of the Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Oregon State Pharmacy Association, we urge your vote for HB 4124 which will help address opiate abuse in Oregon.