Prescription Drug Diversion: Use of Legal Drugs for Illegal Purposes

Module 2

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, you will be able to:

• Evaluate a prescription for tamper-resistant features
• Assess a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) and provide recommendations to improve the usefulness of it
• Formulate a drug diversion prevention plan for your practice

Prevention

Implement Detection Strategies

• Involve entire team
• Recognize suspicious behavior
• Obtain a thorough history
• Look for consistency
• Conduct appropriate tests
• Prescribe non-pharmacological treatment
• Proceed cautiously
Drug Diversion Prevention Strategies

All health care professionals
• Hang posters to deter drug seekers
• Be aware of lock-in programs for beneficiaries
• Pay attention to law enforcement alerts

Pharmacists
• Verify suspicious prescriptions with prescribers

Prescribers
• Consult PDMP data before prescribing controlled substances
• Store prescription pad in a secure location

Drug Diversion Prevention Strategies

All Health Care Professionals
• Document in detail

Prescribers
• Implement detection strategies
• Recognize provider identity theft

Prevention
Prevent Provider Identity Theft

Safeguard your medical identity
Prevention of Prescription Drug Diversion and Abuse

- Tamper-resistant prescription pads
- National Drug Control Strategy
- Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan
  - PDMP
  - Prescription drug disposal programs
- Lock Your Meds®
- Comprehensive training program

Prevention Tamper-Resistant Prescription Pads

- Required for all Medicaid prescriptions
- Prevent fraudulent prescriptions using a variety of tools:
  - Watermarks
  - Thermochromic or coin-reactive ink
  - Erasure revealing background
  - Void protection upon duplication
  - A description of security features printed on each Rx form

Prevention National Drug Control Strategy

- Produced by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)
- Outlines the efforts of the administration to reduce the drug problem
Prevention
National Drug Control Strategy

Goals:
• Curtail illicit drug consumption in America
• Improve the public health and public safety of the American people by reducing the consequences of drug abuse

http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/2013-national-drug-control-strategy

Prevention
Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan

• Education
• Tracking and monitoring
• Proper medication disposal
• Enforcement

Education
• Public
  • Prescription drugs can be as dangerous as illegal drugs
• Health care professionals
  • Appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids
  • Recognition of substance abuse
Prevention
Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan

Tracking and Monitoring

- PDMP
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)
- Electronic prescribing of controlled substances

Option A

Option B
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan

Tracking and Monitoring—PDMP

- Statewide electronic database that collects information on controlled substance prescriptions
  - Track prescribing trends
  - Evaluate efforts to improve prescribing practices
  - Reduce drug diversion and abuse

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan—Tracking and Monitoring

PDMP—benefits

- Improve prescribing
- Reduce doctor shopping and substance abuse treatment admissions
- Result in fewer opiate exposures from abuse and misuse
- Save money

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan—Tracking and Monitoring

PDMP—resources

- National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws
  http://www.namsdl.org/
- Alliance of States with Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
  http://www.pmpalliance.org/
- PDMP Center of Excellence
  http://www.pdmpexcellence.org/
**Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan—Tracking and Monitoring**

**Status of State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)**

- States with operational PDMPs
- States with pending PDMP legislation
- States with legislative funding

*© 2014 The National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws (NAMSDL)*

**SBIRT**

- Brief
- Universal
- Targeted
- Accessible
- Comprehensive
- Evidence-based

**Knowledge Check**

Review the characteristics below. Is the characteristic true or false?

1. PDMP reports can assure that patients in chronic pain properly manage opioid medications.
   - True

2. Review of PDMP data will help determine if patients obtain prescriptions from other healthcare professionals.
   - True
Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan—Proper Medication Disposal

- Prevents drug diversion and abuse
- Promotes public safety
- Protects the environment

Prescription Drug Disposal Programs

- DEA Take-Back Days
- SMARxT Disposal™
  - American Medicine Chest Challenge
- Dispose My Meds

Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan
Lock Your Meds®

- Multi-media campaign
- “Be Aware. Don’t Share.”
- Free downloadable materials
Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan—Enforcement

- Minimize drug diversion and abuse
- Maintain access to prescription medications

Prevention Compliance Program

Provide internal controls to:
- Prevent fraud and abuse
- Monitor adherence to Federal and State law and program requirements

Benefits of education and training
- Improved compliance
- Improved adherence to policies
- Increased collaboration
- Enhanced coordination
- Increased referral
Risk management: Proactive and reactive strategies that reduce the possibility of specific loss.

- Identify the risks
- Assess the probability

Estimate the impact
- Consider external factors
- Patient impact
- Legal and financial consequences

Control the risk
- Follow policies and procedures
- Conduct random audits

Verify use of PDMP

For each of the strategies that appear on the next slide, identify each as either:
- Detection
- Prevention
- Monitoring
Detection, Prevention, or Monitoring Strategies

- Question anything that sends up a "red flag"
- Consult PDMP data before prescribing
- Add a drug diversion risk management program

Reporting Drug Diversion

Notify law enforcement.
Report suspected drug diversion and other fraud or abuse to the State Medicaid agency (SMA)

Reporting Drug Diversion

Other agencies that may also be notified:
- Local law enforcement
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) National Fraud Hotline
- State Medicaid Fraud Control Unit
- State licensing board if a health care professional is involved
Available Resources

- CMS—Drug Diversion in the Medicaid Program
- National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association
  http://nhcaa.org
- National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units
  http://www.namfcu.net
- HHS-OIG
  https://oig.hhs.gov/
- U.S. Department of Justice, DEA Office of Diversion Control
  http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/
- SMA
- Local law enforcement

Questions

Please direct questions or requests to: MedicaidProviderEducation@cms.hhs.gov

To see the electronic version of this presentation and the other products included in the Prescription Drug Diversion Toolkit, visit the Medicaid Program Integrity Education page at http://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/Medicaid-Integrity-Education/edmic-landing.html on the CMS website.

Disclaimer

This presentation was current at the time it was published or uploaded onto the web. Medicaid and Medicare policies change frequently so links to the source documents have been provided within the document for your reference.

This presentation was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This presentation may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. Use of this material is voluntary. Inclusion of a link does not constitute CMS endorsement of the material. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

June 2014