State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health

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Director and State Public Health Officer

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

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Dear Health Care Providers and Partners,

Access and use of high quality and timely data are important to prevent and reduce fatal and non-fatal overdose events and other related individual, social, and environmental harms from substance misuse and addiction. On behalf of the Statewide Overdose Safety (SOS) Workgroup and partners, we are pleased to share the release of the optimized Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES), the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) from the California Department of Justice (DOJ). The updates to CURES reflect an improved user interface and new system features, including functionality mandated through legislation.

Established in 1939, California maintains the oldest continuously operating PDMP. CURES aims to minimize harmful and illegal use and diversion of prescription medications, without interfering with appropriate prescribing. CURES helps health care providers make informed prescribing and dispensing decisions, a practice designed to reduce prescription medication misuse, lower the risk of substance use disorders, and prevent opioid overdoses and deaths.

CURES Optimization – New Features and Functions

The following features are included in the optimized CURES web application and/or CURES Information Exchange Web Service (IEWS):

- Expanded delegate access to CURES data.
- Non-Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) licensed physician and surgeon practitioner access to CURES data.
- Interstate search functionality for prescribers, pharmacists, non-DEA licensed physician and surgeon practitioners, and delegates.
- Inclusion of prescription form serial number on Patient Activity Reports (PAR).
- Distinction between human and animal dispensation records on the PAR.
- Indicator showing a prescription is a component of a compound drug.
- Improved PAR search functionality for the previous 24 months of patient prescription dispensation history for prescribers, pharmacists, non-DEA licensed physician and surgeon practitioners, and delegates.

- Inclusion of morphine milligram equivalents (MME) information and additional prescriber and pharmacy/dispenser details.
- Ability to verify a serialized prescription form was reported as printed by an authorized security prescription printer; reported as lost or stolen by the prescriber; and dispensed by a pharmacy/dispenser.
- New dashboard features to streamline PAR searches and account management.
- Improved self-service password reset process.

Effective April 11, 2022, the Internet Explorer (IE) web browser is no longer compatible with CURES. CURES users should transition to only using the current versions of the following web browsers: Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Safari, & Mozilla Firefox.

CURES Registration and Access

- New users may register by completing the CURES User Registration Form
- Once the registration is reviewed and approved, a system-generated email is sent to confirm access to CURES.
- Reference the Prescriber and Dispenser User Guide for information about navigating and using CURES.
- For existing users, you are not required to re-register.

For assistance with CURES registration, access, or system use, contact the CURES helpdesk at CURES@doj.ca.gov or (916) 210-3187.

Additional Resources

- CA CURES Homepage
- CA CURES: Frequently Asked Questions
- CA Schedule II-IV Drug Acquisition, Prescription, and Dispensation
- CA CURES: Publications and Training Videos
- PDMPs: A Guide for Healthcare Providers - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Leveraging PDMP Data in Overdose Prevention and Response - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Thank you for continuing to provide quality medical care to your patients.

Sincerely,

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