



Better health through
laboratory medicine.

Topic: The Laboratory's Role in Drug Monitoring for Pain Management

Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Q&A SESSION 2 Time: 10:15AM-10:25AM	
Nicholas Heger	Thanks for a great talk, Dr. Hynes! Do any states require physicians to consult the PMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to a new patient? Would you be in support of this kind of legislation?
Wilfred Hynes	Hi this is Will Hynes happy to answer your questions
David Kinniburgh	Do the PMP databases contain drug testing results?
Wilfred Hynes	Many states are starting to require this. Massachusetts does, and new requirements will be implemented this fall where the database must be checked every time a prescription is written. So, for a chronic opiate patient, the database must be checked every month they are given a new script.
Wilfred Hynes	The databases do not have drug testing results
Barbarajean Magnani	I think that the data you presented clearly showed that PDMPs are working at reducing opioid prescriptions
Wilfred Hynes	Yes, very much so
William Bennett	Can the reliability of the information in the PDMP be maintained year after year?
Nicholas Heger	Can you please expand on the monitoring of cash payments as it relates to deductible paid in cash?
Robin Pearn	Do you have problems with identity theft with the implementation of the PDMPs?
Wilfred Hynes	Prescription obtained in cash does not refer to copayments. The pharmacist enters into the database if it was paid for fully with cash

Donna Coy	What is your opinion on PDMP possibly causing diversion to illicit drug use when a patient is denied an opioid prescription?
Carlos Martinez	Is there a federal mandate requiring drug testing monitoring of opioid patients?
Wilfred Hynes	So far, there have not been issues with identity theft, but clearly it is a concern with any web based database. Also concerns exist with unauthorized access, and privacy issues. However, the risk benefit ratio clearly is in favor of implementing these databases
Wilfred Hynes	It is in the state and federal guidelines that urine drug screening should be a part of the monitoring process for patients on opiates. Not mandated as of yet, still referred to as a guideline
Barbarajean Magnani	The CDC guidelines state that UDT should be used before initiating opioid treatment and then at least annually. How often a prescriber actually obtains a UDT may depend on the specific patient (high risk vs low risk).
Carlos Martinez	Thank you.
Wilfred Hynes	Donna, certainly it is always a possibility that patients denied opiates for any reason may seek them out illicitly, but if these tools can identify those patients at risk, we can hopefully get them into treatment for their addiction
William Bennett	Who is maintaining the databases?
Wilfred Hynes	They are all state run databases. Massachusetts is run by the Office of health and human Services. Most states are through some arm of the respective DPH