

September 23, 2021

Colorado State Board of Pharmacy
1560 Broadway
Suite 1350
Denver, CO 80202
Via email: dora_dpo_rulemaking@state.co.us

Re: Proposed Revisions to Rule 23.00.30 – Data Submission Timeline for Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Members of the Board of Pharmacy:

On behalf of the members of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) operating chain pharmacies in the state of Colorado, we thank the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy (Board) for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Rule 23.00.30 revising the timeline for reporting data on dispensed prescriptions to the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP.)

NACDS represents traditional drug stores, supermarkets and mass merchants with pharmacies. Chains operate nearly 40,000 pharmacies, and NACDS' 80 chain member companies include regional chains, with a minimum of four stores, and national companies. Chains employ nearly 3 million individuals, including 155,000 pharmacists. They fill over 3 billion prescriptions yearly, and help patients use medicines correctly and safely, while offering innovative services that improve patient health and healthcare affordability. NACDS members also include more than 900 supplier partners and over 70 international members representing 21 countries. Please visit NACDS.org.

Although not required under recent statutory changes pursuant to SB21-098, the Board has notably proposed to modify the current PDMP reporting timeline to require that “dispensing transactions [be] reported to the PDMP on a daily basis by no later than the end of the following day” – a change from the current timeline of “no later than the outlet’s next regular business day.” We are concerned that this new timeline does not make allowances for reporting around weekends and holidays and would therefore create reporting challenges both for pharmacies that handle PDMP data reporting centrally at corporate headquarters and for pharmacies that are not open 7 days a week.

NACDS supports the timely reporting of PDMP data by pharmacies and other dispensers to ensure that relevant prescription data is available to practitioners and others for program purposes. To this end, chain pharmacy supports policies that require dispensers to report controlled substance dispensing data to PDMPs on a daily basis – that is, by close of the

next business day following dispensing. This reporting timeline helps to ensure the inclusion of timely dispensing data in the PDMP database while allowing a workable timeline for reporting this information across different pharmacy operations. Thus, NACDS urges the board to reject the proposed new reporting timeline and maintain the existing rule language that requires reporting of dispensing transaction data “no later than the outlet’s next regular business day.”

a. Every prescription drug outlet must ensure that all controlled substance dispensing transactions are reported to the PDMP on a daily basis by no later than the ~~outlet’s next regular business day~~ **end of the following day outlet’s next regular business day.**

NACDS appreciates your consideration of our comments on this matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Mary Staples at MStaples@nacds.org or 817-442-1155 for any further discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven C. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Steven C. Anderson, FASAE, CAE, IOM
President and Chief Executive Officer