

Advisory Notice Regarding Prescriptions for Controlled Substances

- Vermont law (18 V.S.A. Chapter 84A) requires the Vermont Department of Health to establish the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS).
- When a Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance¹ is dispensed to an outpatient, the VPMS will collect a standard set of information on the patient, the prescriber, and the drug and hold that information in a central database for six years.
- The database is intended to promote the public health through enhanced opportunities for treatment for and prevention of abuse of controlled substances without interfering with the legal medical use of those substances. This data is confidential, except as provided in the law, and is not subject to the public records law.

The following information is collected:

- Patient Name, Address and Date of Birth
- Drug Dispensed, the Date, Quantity and Dosage, Number of Days' Supply, Number of Refills.
- Patient's Health Care Provider
- Pharmacy Name (where prescription is filled).

You can learn more about the Vermont Prescription Monitoring Program at: <http://healthvermont.gov/adap/VPMS.aspx> You can also call the Vermont Department of Health for more information at: (802) 652-4147.

¹ See <http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/schedules/schedules.html> for information about the controlled substance schedule.