



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release** – February 11, 2008

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### **“Doctor shopping” for drugs just got more difficult now with Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**

The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), Division of Registrations, announces the availability of its Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), a secure database of controlled substance prescriptions dispensed by Colorado pharmacies and from non-resident pharmacies that ship prescriptions into Colorado. The purpose of the database is to provide a tool for practitioners and pharmacists to identify abuse and receive objective information to provide appropriate treatment for their patients.

“The PDMP will be a valuable tool for healthcare providers and pharmacists,” said Rosemary McCool, Director of the Division of Registrations. “Having this information readily available will add efficiency to the healthcare delivery system and reduce “doctor shopping” by those individuals seeking narcotics or other controlled substances for illegitimate reasons.”

The information collected by the PDMP is only accessible electronically to prescribers of controlled substances and pharmacists. Patients may access their own personal data by contacting the program. Law enforcement officials may only obtain information specific to an individual and upon presentation of a subpoena or court order.

The PDMP is operated by the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy. The development of the program was authorized by law in 2005 and a Federal grant to fund implementation was received in late 2006. The anticipated “go live” date was initially September 2007. However, due to unforeseen technology obstacles, full implementation did not begin until February 4, 2008. The delay has allowed a more comprehensive database of prescription information to be established that will be of even greater benefit to healthcare providers and pharmacists.

Interested parties may learn more about the program by visiting [www.coloradopdmp.org](http://www.coloradopdmp.org) or [www.dora.state.co.us/pharmacy](http://www.dora.state.co.us/pharmacy). The program may be contacted by phone at 303-894-5957 or e-mailing [pdmpinqr@dora.state.co.us](mailto:pdmpinqr@dora.state.co.us).



*DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.*

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