



THE VALUE OF ARIZONA'S CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM (CSPMP) TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

“The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program is a great tool for law enforcement and the criminal justice system because it allows quick reference to information that has previously required lengthy research by investigators by way of subpoena. The CSPMP has saved many hours of investigation by providing information accurately and allowing law enforcement immediate access to information to further their investigations.”

Daniel Raiss, Commander
Partners Against Narcotics Trafficking (PANT)

Law enforcement and criminal justice agencies play a crucial role in reducing Arizona's prescription drug epidemic and protecting the public. Arizona's CSPMP is a tool law enforcement agencies can use to assist in investigations involving doctor shopping, pill mills, fraudulent prescriptions, theft and insurance fraud.

Below are additional reasons for utilizing Arizona's CSPMP:

- The CSPMP is an essential tool in efforts to investigate and prosecute criminal activities surrounding prescription drugs.
- The CSPMP can be used to enhance drug diversion investigations conducted by law enforcement officials ranging from doctor shopper and pill mill cases to more complex investigations of organized crime rings.
- CSPMP reports can assist investigators in gathering evidence, generating leads and bringing investigations to a successful conclusion.
- CSPMP information available on specific prescribers, dispensers and individuals involved in diversion is crucial to reductions in investigative time and costs, increases investigative efficiency and improves case productivity.
- CSPMP reports lessen the need for investigators' sole reliance on information from patients, practitioners or concerned citizens to identify and investigate possible prescription drug diversion.
- CSPMP provides information that allows investigators to identify doctors and pharmacists they may want to interview. This saves time in canvassing pharmacies and eliminates visits to health care providers that may have no connection to an investigation. Reports can also confirm the reliability and accuracy of information provided by other sources such as current addresses of individuals or alias names.
- CSPMP information results in faster retrieval of original prescription records by identifying which pharmacy filled the prescription.
- CSPMP reports may also assist in quantifying asset forfeiture and identifying other individuals or suspects potentially involved in drug diversion. This becomes more vital when investigating an organized criminal enterprise such as a prescription forgery ring.

Types of CSPMP Reports that have helped law enforcement investigate Rx drug crimes across the country:

- Patient Report – List of controlled substance prescriptions issued and dispensed to a patient.
- Prescriber or Dispenser Report – List of controlled substance prescribing/dispensing history.
- Prescriber/Dispenser vs. Peer Report – Statistical compilation of an individual's prescribing/dispensing history as compared to similarly licensed prescribers/dispensers in the immediate vicinity and throughout the state.
- Specific Drug or Drug Combinations Report – List of patients, prescribers, dispensers for a particular medication or combination of medications.
- Geographical Report –An area or state map with points plotted for distances a patient travels to obtain prescriptions OR 'hot spots' for controlled substance prescription activities.

