

WAC 246-840-4990 Prescription monitoring program—Required registration, queries, and documentation. (1) The advanced registered nurse practitioner shall register to access the prescription monitoring program (PMP) or demonstrate proof of having registered to access the PMP if they prescribe opioids in Washington state.

(2) The advanced registered nurse practitioner is permitted to delegate performance of a required PMP query to an authorized designee, as defined in WAC 246-470-050.

(3) At a minimum, the advanced registered nurse practitioner shall ensure a PMP query is performed prior to the prescription of an opioid at the following times:

(a) First opioid prescription for acute pain unless clinical exception is documented; such exceptions should be rare, occurring in less than ten percent of the first prescriptions;

(b) First refill for acute pain if not checked with initial prescription due to documented clinical exception;

(c) Time of transition from acute to subacute pain;

(d) Time of transition from subacute to chronic pain; and

(e) Time of preoperative assessment for any elective surgery or prior to discharge for nonelective surgery.

(4) For chronic pain management, the advanced registered nurse practitioner shall ensure a PMP query is performed at a minimum frequency determined by the patient's risk assessment, as follows:

(a) For a high-risk patient, a PMP query shall be completed at least quarterly.

(b) For a moderate-risk patient, a PMP query shall be completed at least semiannually.

(c) For a low-risk patient, a PMP query shall be completed at least annually.

(5) The advanced registered nurse practitioner shall ensure a PMP query is performed for any chronic pain patient immediately upon identification of aberrant behavior.

(6) The advanced registered nurse practitioner shall ensure a PMP query is performed when providing episodic care to a patient who the advanced registered nurse practitioner knows to be receiving opioids for chronic pain, in accordance with WAC 246-840-4955.

(7) For the purposes of this section, the requirement to consult the PMP does not apply when the PMP or the electronic medical record (EMR) cannot be accessed by the advanced registered nurse practitioner due to a temporary technological or electrical failure. The query shall be completed as soon as technically feasible.

(8) Pertinent concerns discovered in the PMP shall be documented in the patient record.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.800 and 2017 c 297. WSR 18-20-086, § 246-840-4990, filed 10/1/18, effective 11/1/18.]