Survey Results: Quantity Limits on Short-Acting Painkillers and Prescription Monitoring Program

November 18th 2015

Pharmacies and Prescribers

Earlier this year OHCA surveyed for feedback on the quantity limits placed on the number of short-acting painkillers and the use of the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). As part of an overall communication process, OHCA Pharmacy Services would like to share the results. The survey was anonymous and targeted prescribers, pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians.

Summary of Survey Results

- The survey was sent to 1978 providers/prescribers and 989 pharmacies
- A total of 244 responses were received, 48.7% of these identified as prescribers and 51.3% identified as pharmacies for an overall 8.2% response rate.
- 40.4% of respondents were pharmacists, 21.2% were physicians, 23.8% were dentists, nurse practitioners or physician assistants, 9.6% were pharmacy technicians, and 5% identified as “other” such as administrative, or executive.
- Most commonly, notification of the Quantity Limit (QL) was received by a SoonerCare provider letter (35.1%) followed by the SoonerCare Pharmacy Update (28.8%)
- The QL impacted the dispensing (44.8%), prescribing (33%), and monitoring (16.9%) processes the most.
- Impact to SoonerCare members was ranked as minimal (42.9%) to medium (25.4%), not at all (15.5%) and high (8.3%) in the QL survey results.
- According to survey results (n=108), the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) is viewed before prescribing any controlled substances by 38% of the respondents. 25% of respondents check PMP for suspected at-risk patients, and 11% indicated they check the PMP for all patients, no matter the circumstances or diagnosis. 15.7% responded with other comments; 3.7% (n=4) indicated they are not registered with the PMP program.

Thank you for your participation in this survey. Results will be reviewed further for other initiatives to better serve SoonerCare providers and members.

Results of the survey can be view and downloaded at the the following web-link or type the link in your web browser exactly as it appears:

http://www.okhca.org/providers.aspx?id=15481

OR

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code

Questions or comments can be directed to the following e-mail: Pharmacy@okhca.org

Thank you for the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare!