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*The National Society of Dental Practitioners and the Dentist's Advantage Insurance Program for Dentists*

## **RISK MANAGEMENT ALERT**

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### **PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAMS (PDMP)**

Thirty-nine states have instituted Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) that require all providers who prescribe certain controlled substances to check a state database which allows them to review the patient's prescription history. Pharmacists must enter the filling of such prescriptions. These regulations have been instituted to combat the opioid crisis. The CDC and other agencies are urging all states to pass such regulations.

It is strongly recommended that all prescribers of controlled substances adhere to their state's regulations regarding use of PDMPs. For those providers in states without such regulations, it is recommended to keep alert for legislative action PDMP in their state. All dentists must keep current with all information on the opioid crisis and practice in a caring and preventive manner for all patients with the potential for substance abuse.

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