

Types of offenders:

Offenders often become dependent on drugs legally prescribed to them and then unfortunately may attempt to obtain additional drugs illegally because of their struggle with addiction. Other offenders, who are already involved with street drugs, discover how to convert prescription drugs into more potent substances.

Unlike perpetrators of other drug-related crimes, prescription fraud and misuse offenders span a wide range of ethnic, social, educational, and economic backgrounds.

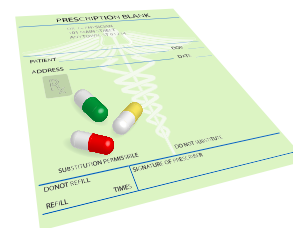
- **Youth and young adults.** The most dramatic increases in illegal prescription drug use in recent years have been among youth.
- **Women.** Even though their rate of non-medical drug use is roughly the same as men, women are twice as likely to become dependent on drugs.
- **Older adults.** This demographic may be more susceptible to prescription drug misuse because they are prescribed such drugs at a rate three times that of the general population.
- **People with existing substance use disorders.** Law enforcement agencies have observed increases in prescription drug misuse among users of heroin and other illegal drugs, who take prescription drugs to ease the effects of those other drugs.
- **Healthcare workers.** Healthcare workers are in a unique position to acquire and misuse prescription drugs. Offenders may steal drugs while working, steal prescription pads, or write illegal prescriptions for friends.

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Types of prescription fraud:

Prescription fraud can take many forms. The most common tactics are:

- **Forging prescriptions.** Forging prescription slips has become easier as the cost of high-quality copying equipment has dropped.
- **Altering prescriptions.** The first resort of many users of legally prescribed drugs who become dependent is to alter a legitimate prescription to change the type of drug, increase the number of refills, increase the quantity, or add drugs.
- **Doctor shopping.** Those who doctor shop often go to multiple doctors, emergency rooms, and pharmacies and pretend to have certain symptoms or gain sympathy to obtain prescriptions.
- **Calling in prescriptions.** Typically, offenders call in a prescription when the doctor's office is closed, in case the pharmacist calls the office to confirm that the prescription is legitimate; some offenders leave their own phone numbers for verification.
- **Stealing blank prescription forms.** Some offenders steal prescription pads from doctor's offices and write prescriptions for either themselves or fictitious patients. They may change the phone number so that they or an accomplice can answer verification calls.



Prescription Monitoring Program

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860-713-6073 | www.ct.gov/dcp/pmp

Connecticut
Prescription Monitoring
and Reporting System (CPMRS)

Prescription Fraud

Save Time. Close Cases.

An Online Investigation Tool
at Your Fingertips



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CPMRS: An online tool to assist in prescription fraud investigations

Q Why is Connecticut concerned with prescription fraud?

A Prescription fraud, misuse and overdose is a significant and growing problem in Connecticut. State and local police agencies are increasingly reporting diverted pharmaceuticals as their greatest drug threat, based on both prevalence of the problem and related issues of misuse-related crimes.

It is a serious form of illegal drug activity, rivaling activity that involves more traditional street drugs.

Q How does the CPMRS support prescription fraud investigations?

A The CPMRS is a web-based application that allows detectives and officers involved in prescription fraud investigations access to:

- A patient's controlled-substance (Schedule II – V) prescription history.
- Patient or primary caregiver medical marijuana dispensing history.
- A prescriber's controlled-substance prescribing and medical marijuana certifying history.
- A patient's or caregiver's medical marijuana certificate.



Q CPMRS: How does it work?

A Connecticut-licensed pharmacies, both in-state and out-of-state, and Connecticut-licensed medical marijuana dispensary facilities are required to submit their controlled-substance prescription or medical marijuana dispensing data into the CPMRS no later than the next business day.

Q Why should I use the CPMRS for prescription fraud investigations?

A The system provides the following:

- Reduce the physical legwork involved in an investigation.
- Access a patient's controlled substance prescription history report and medical marijuana dispensing data online 24/7.
- Access a prescriber's controlled substance prescribing and medical marijuana history 24/7.
- Post alerts on possible suspects.
- Identify other law enforcement entities that are investigating the same suspect and share case information, using the Case Management Module.
- Assess controlled substance prescription data within your community or jurisdiction. Data available upon request.
- Verify a Connecticut medical marijuana certificate 24/7, using the Medical Marijuana Certificate Verification Module.



Q How do I register for a free CPMRS Account?

A Access is restricted to detectives and officers involved in prescription fraud investigations.

In order to access the CPMRS:

- Provide written permission from your supervisor (chief, lieutenant, captain, etc.) and e-mail it to the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) at dcp.pmp@ct.gov
- Complete a 30-minute training session.
Please note: the Medical Marijuana Certificate Verification module is available to any law enforcement personnel. No training required.
- Create an account at: <https://connecticut.pmpaware.net/>
- No special software or equipment is needed.
- Access by any computer, tablet or mobile phone with internet connection.

Q Where are trainings held?

A Trainings are provided by PMP staff and are held at:

- State/local police departments and barracks
- Department of Consumer Protection's Hartford office
- Webinar (requires internet connection)

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Prescription Fraud

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CPMRS is a web-based application available for detectives and police officers involved in prescription fraud investigations.

As a registered user, you'll be able to:

- Access a patient's controlled-substance prescription history - including medical marijuana dispensing history.
- Access a prescriber's controlled-substance prescribing history.
- Detect suspicious activity faster. Post alerts on possible suspects.
- Uncover doctor/pharmacy shopping and other fraudulent behaviors.
- Assess controlled substance prescription data within your community or jurisdiction.

Save Time.

- Use fewer resources
- Get 24/7 access via your computer/tablet/phone
- Close prescription fraud cases fast



For more information on how to register contact us at:
dcp.pmp@ct.gov or call **860-713-6073**



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CONSUMER PROTECTION