



# STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER  
GOVERNOR  
PATTY JUDGE  
LT. GOVERNOR

BOARD OF PHARMACY  
LLOYD K. JESSEN, RPh, JD, DIRECTOR

December 30, 2011

Governor Terry E. Branstad  
Members of the 84th General Assembly  
Iowa State Capitol  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Honorable Governor and Members:

Re: Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program

Pursuant to the requirements of section 124.554, subsection 2, of the Iowa Uniform Controlled Substances Act, the Board of Pharmacy (Board) submits the following information.

The Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) provides authorized prescribers and pharmacists with information regarding their patients' use of controlled substances and is used as a tool in determining appropriate prescribing and treatment of patients without fear of contributing to a patient's abuse of or dependence on addictive drugs or diversion of those drugs to illicit use. Iowa pharmacies are required to report to the Iowa PMP all Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances dispensed by the pharmacy to ambulatory patients.

The Iowa PMP became fully operational on March 25, 2009. The cost of initial implementation of the Iowa PMP was paid by federal grant and amounted to \$411,250. Costs since implementation, amounting to \$97,608 annually, provide for the receipt and delivery of pharmacy data and database software maintenance. Annual costs are paid from license fees retained by the Board for the support of Board programs and activities. No additional fees or surcharges have been imposed to pay for activities or support of the Iowa PMP.

The Iowa PMP is administered by the Board with the assistance and guidance of an advisory council consisting of governor-appointed pharmacists and prescribers. The advisory council meets as needed to review the progress of the Iowa PMP, the cost of maintaining the Iowa PMP and the benefits of the program, possible enhancements to the program, and information, comments, and suggestions received from program users and members of the public.

The Board and the PMP Advisory Council also review statistics regarding the use of the Iowa PMP by prescribers, pharmacists, and law enforcement or regulatory agents; the number of prescriptions filled each year; the top drugs dispensed in Iowa each year; and indices of excessive pharmacy-shopping or doctor-shopping for controlled substances. Included with this

report are some of the data compiled since the establishment of the Iowa PMP. Data for calendar year 2011 is through mid-December.

The data indicate steady increases in the number of pharmacists and prescribers registering to use the Iowa PMP and in the number of requests for patient prescription history being submitted and used by those authorized users. The data also demonstrate that the prescribing and dispensing of these controlled substances has not been unnecessarily or adversely affected by the implementation of the Iowa PMP. The number of prescriptions dispensed and the number of doses dispensed have increased each year for which data has been compiled in the database.

A number of regulatory and law enforcement agents have also registered to use the Iowa PMP. A member of this user community may receive Iowa PMP data only for an existing investigation or case where there has been a determination of probable cause for the information and the request for prescription information is accompanied by an order, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion. Less than one percent of all processed requests are attributable to law enforcement or regulatory agents but those agents who have used information available from the Iowa PMP report improved efficiency and reduced investigative hours due to the central availability of the prescription information compiled in the Iowa PMP database.

A table comparing the top dispensed controlled substances for calendar years 2009, 2010, and 2011, is included along with charts plotting the top controlled substance doses dispensed during 2008 and 2011. Although these charts and table identify some changes to and movement among the top dispensed controlled substances, the substances ranking in the top doses dispensed are fairly consistent, especially within the top six substances.

Comments received from prescribers and pharmacists using the program indicate that the Iowa PMP is a valuable assistive tool in determining appropriate health care treatment for their patients. A frequent suggestion from users is to provide a means of checking other states' PMP records at the time a query is submitted to the Iowa PMP. Practitioners along Iowa's borders are especially supportive of such a program enhancement. The Board has pre-filed a bill for consideration during the 2012 legislative session that would authorize the Board to enter into data-sharing compacts with other states' PMPs subject to the security provisions of Iowa law.

The Board and the PMP Advisory Council concur, and health professional boards, associations, and societies agree, that the Iowa PMP provides proportionally more value for the health care community and their patients than the program costs and that the Iowa PMP should continue.

Respectfully submitted,



Lloyd K. Jessen, R.Ph., J.D.  
Executive Secretary/Director

LKJ:tmw

Attachments

# IOWA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM REPORT 2011

## DATA COMPILATION

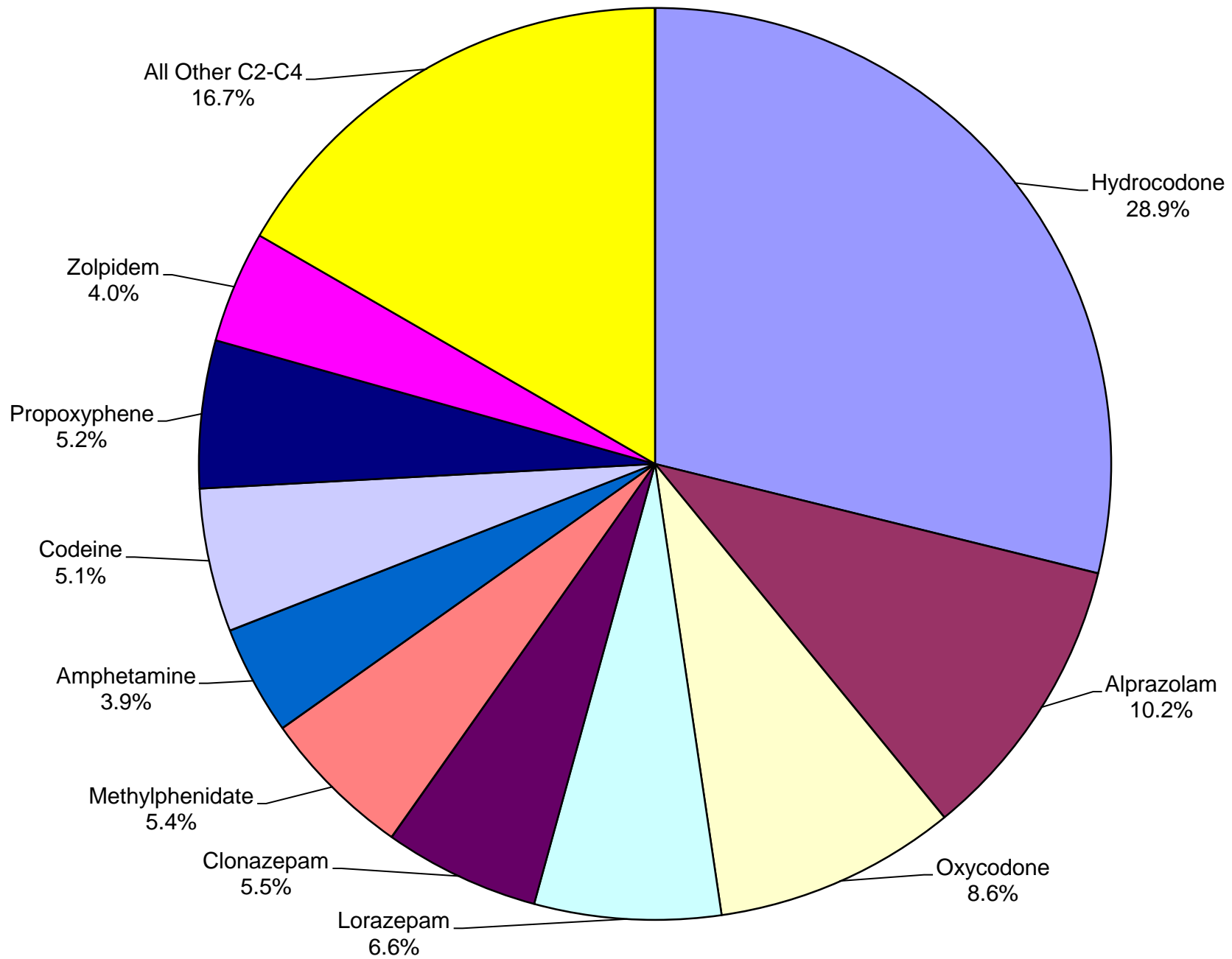
**MARCH 26, 2009, TO DECEMBER 18, 2011**

<b>Period:</b>	<b>3/26/2009 - 12/31/2009</b>	<b>1/1/2010 - 12/31/2010</b>	<b>1/1/2010 - 12/18/2011</b>		
Total CSA Registrant/Prescribers	13,074	13,472	14,008		
Total Iowa Pharmacies	939	943	948		
Total Iowa-resident Pharmacists	3,269	3,314	3,372		
Prescribers Registered	1,436	2,254	2,956		
Pharmacists Registered	758	1,020	1,208		
Regulators Registered	15	26	28		
Law Enforcement Agents Registered	29	65	92		
Prescriber Requests Processed	16,806	44,442	68,282		
Pharmacist Requests Processed	5,703	7,988	7,935		
LE/Regulator Requests Processed	251	340	402		
<b>Total # Requests Processed</b>	<b>22,760</b>	<b>52,770</b>	<b>76,619</b>		
	<b>1/1/2008 - 12/31/2008</b>	<b>1/1/2009 - 12/31/2009</b>	<b>1/1/2010 - 12/31/2010</b>	<b>1/1/2011 - 12/18/2011</b>	
<b>Filled prescriptions for period:</b>					
# Individual patients filling CII Prescriptions	182,755	198,795	297,424	313,774	
...from 5 or more prescribers or pharmacies	437	501	217	216	
...from 10 or more prescribers or pharmacies	18	22	4	5	
...from 15 or more prescribers or pharmacies	5	4	-	-	
# Individual patients filling CII or CIII Prescriptions	598,684	611,040	825,693	839,829	
...from 5 or more prescribers or pharmacies	2,117	2,270	1,360	1,179	
...from 10 or more prescribers or pharmacies	171	171	68	55	
...from 15 or more prescribers or pharmacies	41	40	11	8	
# Individual patients filling CII, CIII, CIV Prescriptions	800,956	822,577	1,170,815	1,086,256	
...from 5 or more prescribers or pharmacies	3,050	3,293	2,016	1,549	
...from 10 or more prescribers or pharmacies	234	232	96	61	
...from 15 or more prescribers or pharmacies	53	57	16	9	
<b>Total # Prescriptions dispensed for period:</b>	<b>4,059,807</b>	<b>4,239,890</b>	<b>4,442,017</b>	<b>4,319,665</b>	
<b>Total # Doses dispensed for period:</b>	<b>223,544,782</b>	<b>228,149,732</b>	<b>242,691,025</b>	<b>238,878,472</b>	

**IOWA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM  
TOP DISPENSED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES  
JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 18, 2011**

	1/1/2009 to 12/31/2009		1/1/2010 to 12/31/2010		1/1/2011 to 12/18/2011	
	Rx's	Doses	Rx's	Doses	Rx's	Doses
HYDROCODONE	1,134,036	65,145,061	1,169,708	68,290,458	1,209,256	72,277,615
	26.7%	28.6%	26.3%	28.1%	28.0%	30.3%
ALPRAZOLAM	398,137	24,501,986	413,897	25,583,849	420,732	26,185,742
	9.4%	10.7%	9.3%	10.5%	9.7%	11.0%
OXYCODONE	271,693	19,798,334	278,326	21,098,144	304,138	23,852,290
	6.4%	8.7%	6.3%	8.7%	7.0%	10.0%
LORAZEPAM	293,983	15,487,637	279,261	14,849,209	283,492	15,158,234
	6.9%	6.8%	6.3%	6.1%	6.6%	6.3%
CLONAZEPAM	233,485	13,537,074	247,029	14,352,868	257,211	15,102,650
	5.5%	5.9%	5.6%	5.9%	6.0%	6.3%
METHYLPHENIDATE	267,115	12,796,748	283,308	13,621,982	303,452	14,275,858
	6.3%	5.6%	6.4%	5.6%	7.0%	6.0%
AMPHETAMINE/SALTS	192,441	9,457,972	217,634	10,500,539	231,708	11,292,611
	4.5%	4.1%	4.9%	4.3%	5.4%	4.7%
CODEINE	137,309	7,434,250	124,658	6,579,306	127,126	7,079,996
	3.2%	3.3%	2.8%	2.7%	2.9%	3.0%
ZOLPIDEM	355,138	10,220,497	376,339	10,973,623	393,138	11,657,284
	8.4%	4.5%	8.5%	4.5%	9.1%	4.9%
MORPHINE	75,973	5,288,619	79,131	5,514,026	80,570	5,663,264
	1.8%	2.3%	1.8%	2.3%	1.9%	2.4%
DIAZEPAM	101,486	4,876,677	104,630	5,036,523	102,492	4,973,326
	2.4%	2.1%	2.4%	2.1%	2.4%	2.1%
PROPOXYPHENE	184,249	10,317,578	146,770	8,339,681	21	1,401
	4.3%	4.5%	3.3%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%
ALL OTHER CII - CIV	594,845	29,287,299	721,326	37,950,817	606,329	31,358,201
	14.0%	12.8%	16.2%	15.6%	14.0%	13.1%

# IOWA PMP CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE DOSES DISPENSED IN 2008



**IOWA PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM REPORT 2011 CONTROLLED  
SUBSTANCE DOSES DISPENSED  
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011**

