



**User Guide for
Transition to the
Drug Information System**

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Contact Information

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For inquiries regarding Drug Information System error messages or Drug Information System records, contact Drug Information System Support. Refer to the 'Drug Information System Support – Getting Help' section in your *Drug Information System 'Go to' Guide*.

Important Points

Prescribing of monitored drugs in Nova Scotia:

1. A monitored drug is designated as any drug that is a controlled drug pursuant to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada) and appears in the schedules to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada) as it is amended or any successor legislation. When a pharmacy connects to the Drug Information System, drugs that have been exempted from the Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program (NSPMP) in the past will no longer be exempted. This means that prescriptions for testosterone (when dispensed as a compound for topical application for local effect) and benzodiazepines will be captured by the Drug Information System and sent to the NSPMP.

Note:

Until all pharmacies are connected to the Drug Information System, prescriptions for benzodiazepines will be captured by the NSPMP, but will not be monitored or displayed in the NSPMP's eAccess portal.

2. Prescriptions for drugs that were monitored prior to connection to the Drug Information System **must be written on a duplicate prescription pad** provided by the NSPMP. Prescriptions for drugs that were exempted in the past (benzodiazepines and compounded topical testosterone) **are not required to be written on a duplicate prescription pad.**

Exceptions:

- Prescriptions for monitored drugs for patients in long term care facilities, as defined by the *Homes for Special Care Act*, are not required to be written on a duplicate prescription pad.
 - Prescriptions for Federal inmates are not required to be written on a duplicate prescription pad.
3. Prescribers are not permitted to share personalized duplicate prescription pads.
 4. A prescriber must only prescribe one monitored drug per personalized duplicate prescription form.

Dispensing monitored drugs in Nova Scotia:

5. The personalized duplicate prescription pad contains a "PMP ID" corresponding to the individual prescriber. Pharmacies connected to the Drug Information System no longer use this "PMP ID" to identify the prescriber. Instead, pharmacies **use the prescriber's license number issued by their regulatory body**. If you do not have the prescriber's license number, use their name to search the Provider Registry to retrieve it.
6. The personalized duplicate prescription pad also contains a "PMP pad number" corresponding to the individual prescriber. Pharmacies connected to the Drug Information System are no longer required to send the "PMP pad number" with the prescription information.

7. Part-fills of prescriptions for monitored drugs can be submitted to the Drug Information System as refills.

Requirement to register with NSPMP:

8. Pharmacists, pharmacies and the dispensing physician are required to be registered with the NSPMP.
9. When a pharmacy changes ownership, opens, closes or moves to a new location, the NSPMP must also be notified.
10. Prescribers are required to be registered with the NSPMP to receive personalized duplicate prescription pads.

Prescriptions not currently monitored by the NSPMP:

11. Prescriptions written by veterinarians are not monitored at this time.
12. Prescriptions for an in-patient of a hospital, as defined by the *Hospitals Act*, are not monitored at this time.

The eAccess portal during the transition to the Drug Information System

13. Until all pharmacies are connected to the Drug Information System it is possible that not all monitored prescriptions will be listed in a patient's medication profile in the Drug Information System. However, by checking the NSPMP's eAccess portal, you will be able to view all dispenses for monitored drugs (except benzodiazepines) for your patients.

Patient (Client) Identifiers

PMP utilizes the Patient Identifiers used in the Drug Information System. The Drug Information System relies on the Client Registry as its source for demographic information including the following Patient Identifiers (IDs):

- Nova Scotia Health Card Number (HCN)
- Jurisdictional Health Care Identifiers used in other Canadian Provinces and Territories
- Canadian Forces Member Identification Number
- Patients in long term care facilities – Use one of the above identifiers as appropriate
- Federal inmates - Use one of the above identifiers as appropriate
- Out of country individuals – No identifier is required

Note that RCMP members now use Jurisdictional Health Care Identifiers from the Canadian Province and Territory in which they reside.

Office Supplies

Note that the Drug Information System does not require a Patient ID on an Office Supply transaction (i.e. prescription filled for use in a clinic or prescriber's office).

PMP Response Messages from the Drug Information System

The following table shows the various Drug Information System responses associated with the PMP validations performed on transactions submitted by pharmacies to the Drug Information System.

PMP Validation Description	DIS Response	DIS Response Text
A Patient should only have active Prescription Orders for drugs on the PMP Drug List (non-targeted substances) from one Prescriber and one Pharmacy in a 30 day period	Accept with a warning*	NS-PMP: POTENTIAL DOUBLE DOCTORING
A Patient should only have active Prescription Orders for Targeted Substances from one Prescriber and one Pharmacy in a 30 day period	Accept with a warning*	NS PMP: POTENTIAL DOUBLE DOCTORING – TARGETED SUBSTANCES

PMP Validation Description	DIS Response	DIS Response Text
The prescriber of monitored Drug Prescription Order must be a Provider Type authorized to prescribe monitored drugs	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The DIS must validate that the prescriber of the monitored Drug Prescription Order is allowed to prescribe monitored drugs (i.e. no prescribing restrictions exist)	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The prescriber of monitored Drug Prescription Dispense must be a Provider Type authorized to prescribe monitored drugs	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The DIS must validate that the prescriber as indicated on a monitored Drug Prescription Dispense is allowed to prescribe monitored drugs (i.e. no prescribing restrictions exist)	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The prescriber of monitored Drug Office Supply record must be a Provider Type authorized to prescribe monitored drugs	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The DIS must validate that the prescriber as indicated on an Office Supply for a monitored drug must be allowed to prescribe monitored drugs (i.e. no prescribing restrictions exist)	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIBER NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRESCRIBE MONITORED DRUGS
The DIS must prevent the ability to transfer a prescription order which is for a monitored drug (excluding Targeted Substances)	Reject	NS-PMP: PRESCRIPTION TRANSFER NOT ALLOWED FOR MONITORED DRUG

PMP Validation Description	DIS Response	DIS Response Text
A monitored drug specified with an OPINIONS PIN must not be submitted as Device Prescription Order	Reject	NS-PMP: MONITORED DRUGS MUST NOT BE SUBMITTED AS A DEVICE
A monitored drug specified with an OPINIONS PIN must not be submitted as Device Prescription Dispense	Reject	NS-PMP: MONITORED DRUGS MUST NOT BE SUBMITTED AS A DEVICE

* Optionally, the pharmacy can submit a subsequent transaction to the Drug Information System in order to record management of the issue that generated the warning. The issue management includes using an issue management code (e.g. therapy appropriate, stopped concurrent therapy, etc.) and optional free text details further describing the management of the issue.

Prescription Dispense Reversals

Any prescriptions that were completed before connecting to the Drug Information System cannot be reversed or changed in the Drug Information System as they will not be there. If it is necessary to reverse or change a prescription that was sent to the NSPMP before connecting to the Drug Information System, please contact the NSPMP.

Compounds

In the Drug Information System, compounds which include one or more monitored ingredients must be recorded with the following information:

- a free text description of the compound; **and**
- the monitored drug ingredient(s) represented by
 1. the name of the ingredient
 2. the ID # - either the DIN of the monitored drug manufactured product or the OPINIONS PIN of the monitored drug chemical used in the compound (list provided below); and
 3. the quantity of ingredient used in the compound. For methadone compounds, the quantity of methadone dispensed shall be specified in milligrams (mg).

Note that non-monitored ingredients may also be listed, but are not required. A non-monitored ingredient can be represented by an ID # that is a DIN, NPN, OPINIONS PIN or pseudo DIN.

NSPMP Monitored Drug Chemical	OPINIONS PIN
Belladonna Tincture	99099966
Cocaine Powder	99099974
Codeine Powder	99099975
Dexedrine Trial	99099976
DHEA (prasterone)	99099977
Diazepam Powder	99099963
Fentanyl Powder	99099978
Generic Monitored Ingredient	99099979
Hydromorphone Powder	99099980
Ketamine Powder	99099981
Methadone Powder	99099993
Methylphenidate Trial	99099984
Midazolam Powder	99099964
Morphine Powder	99099986
Sativex Trial	99099991
Testosterone Powder	99099965

Following are examples of the information to transmit to the Drug Information System for monitored drug compounds:

Prescription	Free Text Description (example)	Drug Ingredient Details
<p>Methadone 10mg/mL Solution with Tang Dispense 700mg q7 days Quantity: 2800mg</p>	<p>Methadone 10mg/mL in Tang</p>	<p>Name: Metadol 10mg/mL OL ID #: 02241377 (i.e. DIN for Metadol) Quantity: 700mg</p> <p>Optionally, details of the Tang can be specified: Name: Tang ID #: 00999997 (i.e. the pseudo DIN used by the pharmacy) Quantity: amount of Tang used</p>
<p>Methadone 80mg in Tang Dispense daily - Start April 19/13, stop May 16/13 Quantity: 2240mg</p>	<p>Methadone 5mg/mL with Tang</p>	<p>Name: Methadone Powder ID #: 99099993 (i.e. OPINIONS PIN for Methadone Powder) Quantity: 80mg</p> <p>Optionally, details of the Tang and distilled water can be specified: Name: Tang ID #: 00999997 (i.e. the pseudo DIN used by the pharmacy) Quantity: amount of Tang used Name: Distilled water ID #: 00999994 (i.e. the pseudo DIN used by the pharmacy) Quantity: amount of distilled water used</p>

Prescription	Free Text Description (example)	Drug Ingredient Details
Ketamine 0.5% and Amitriptyline 1% in PLO Quantity: 50g	Ketamine 0.5% Amitriptyline 1% in PLO	<p>Name: Ketamine Powder ID #: 99099981 (i.e. OPINIONS PIN for Ketamine Powder) Quantity: 0.25g</p> <p>Optionally, the details of Amitriptyline and PLO Gel can also be specified: Name: Amitriptyline Powder ID #: 00000000* Quantity: 0.5g</p> <p>Name: DiffusiMAX PLO Gel ID #: 11111111* Quantity: 49.25g</p> <p>* Example Ingredient ID numbers only. These IDs can be the pseudo DINs used by the pharmacy for these ingredients.</p>
Cesamet 0.1% Syrup Quantity: 100mL	Cesamet 0.1% Syrup	<p>Name: Cesamet 1mg Capsule ID #: 00548375 (i.e. DIN for Cesamet 10mg) Quantity: 10</p> <p>Optionally, details of the Simple Syrup can be specified: Name: Simple Syrup ID #: 00999992 (i.e. the pseudo DIN used by the pharmacy) Quantity: amount of Simple Syrup used</p>

Void or Stolen Prescription Reporting

Pharmacies connected to the Drug Information System are no longer required to send the "PMP pad number" with the prescription information, so they will not receive VOID or STOLEN pad messages. However the pharmacy may, after dispensing a prescription written on a VOID or STOLEN pad, become aware of the fact that the pad was VOID or STOLEN. The NSPMP would appreciate being notified about this. The following fax form is provided to simplify the notification process.

Fax from Store # _____

NOTE: This fax is to be used to report VOID or STOLEN prescriptions **that have been dispensed**.

To:	The Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program	Store Name:	
Fax:	1-902-481-3157	Store Fax:	
Phone:	1-902-496-7123 1-877-476-7767	Store Phone:	
Subject:	Stolen or Void Prescriptions	Date:	

Please indicate which type of prescription (Void or Stolen) you dispensed by circling below:

Void **Stolen**

PMP Pad Number: _____

Brief Summary of Events: _____

Pharmacist license number: _____

Pharmacist Name: _____

Pharmacist Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please forward a copy of the prescription to the NSPMP.