



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Behavioral Health Administration • Spring Grove Hospital Center • Dix Building  
55 Wade Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228

*Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Van T. Mitchell, Secretary  
Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., Executive Director*

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**MEMORANDUM**

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**To:** Prescribers and Pharmacists

**From:** Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., Howard Haft, M.D.

**Date:** September 30, 2016

**Re:** Prescription Drug Monitoring (PDMP) Mandatory Registration

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The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is providing an update to the requirement that healthcare practitioners who prescribe CDS be registered with the PDMP in order to obtain a new or renewal Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) license, starting October 1, 2016.

HB 437 2016, effective October 1, 2016, requires all CDS prescribers and pharmacists to be registered with the PDMP by July 1, 2017. Section 1 of this bill also linked the PDMP registration with a new or renewal CDS license such that a CDS license would not be issued after October 1, 2016 unless the applicant had completed PDMP registration. DHMH has determined that it is in the best interests of prescribers and the community to delay the link between the CDS license and PDMP registration until July 1, 2017. Approval of applications for a new or renewal CDS license received before July 1, 2017 will not be contingent upon completion of the PDMP registration.

**The requirement that all prescribers and pharmacists be registered with the PDMP by July 1, 2017 remains in effect.**

Attached is an updated Fact Sheet explaining the requirements of the new law.