



# MD snapshot

---

Prescribing

# UNTRUTHS



It is a report card



Places doctors at  
risk of disciplinary  
interventions

# TRUTHS



It is Confidential



It is part of the  
Continuing  
Competency arm of  
the CPSA, NOT the  
Disciplinary arm



MD  
SNAPSHOT-  
PRESCRIBING

## What is the MD Snapshot – Prescribing report?

- Broad-based prescribing report  
Distinct from traditional prescribing interventions which focused on just higher risk prescribing
- Personalized report for MDs for self-reflection, practice optimization, prescribing awareness, patient care
- Educational + supportive QI tool (as opposed to disciplinary)



MD  
SNAPSHOT-  
PRESCRIBING

## Why was the report developed?

- Opioid Crisis – first report circulated Dec 2016
- Comparative audit and feedback tool; proven interventional approach
- Component of QI/QA for physicians



CONTINUING  
COMPETENCE

- Improve all physician practices – optimize quality of care provided to Alberta patients by their physicians
- To identify practices that may be at risk to the patient and to intervene before patient harm/complaint occurs

Proactive Approach



College of  
Physicians  
& Surgeons  
of Alberta

Wainwright, William  
Registration Number: 987654

# MD snapshot

Prescribing  
Quarter 1, 2019

## MD snapshot

### Three Month Prescribing Snapshot: Opioids (1), including codeine

	Year Fractile	Comparator Group Median (2)	Year Percentile
Patient(s) receiving opioids prescribed by you	29	25	55.2
Total OME/day (3)	2,474.5	268.8	91.2
OME/day-patient (4)	85.3	11.5	98.8
Patient(s) to whom you prescribed buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) (5)	1		93.6
Patient(s) receiving opioids at an average dose of 90 OME/day or higher (6)	0		
Patient(s) receiving one or more opioid(s) and one or more BDZ's prescribed by you (7)	5		
Patient(s) receiving three or more different opioids (8)	0		
Opioid naive patient(s) receiving a long-acting opioid prescribed by you (9)	1		
Patient(s) receiving opioids from three or more prescribers	2		

(1) The opioid analysis group includes drug dispensed for opioids, opiates and certain non-opioid drugs (buprenorphine and buprenorphine/naloxone). Non-opioid drugs and opioid drugs accepted on oral morphine equivalent (OME) value of data (morphine and buprenorphine) do not contribute to total opioid dose calculations. These contribute to aggregate count only. Codeine is included in all measures.

(2) Comparator groups are clusters of prescribers with similar clinical practices and distribution within an anatomical drug class. This tool being compared to your peers who belong to the same group as you. Practice setting information from your annual report was used to determine your assignment to a group.

(3) Total OME/day prescribed is calculated by dividing the total oral morphine equivalents (OME) dispensed to patients from your prescriptions, divided by the number of days in the quarter.

(4) OME/day-patient average is calculated by dividing the total OME/day you prescribed by the number of patients to whom you prescribed an opioid.

(5) Only patients receiving buprenorphine/naloxone prescribed by you are included. Patients to whom you prescribed another opioid that are receiving buprenorphine/naloxone from a different prescriber are not included, though they may contribute to the regional aggregate measure.

(6) Prescribers other than you, including pharmacists, nurse practitioners and dentists, who may have prescribed an opioid to your patient contribute towards this measure.

(7) BDZ's category includes dispense for benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine-like drugs or Z-drugs (i.e. Zolpidem, Zaleplon or Eszopiclone).

(8) Opioid naive patients are those with no opioid dispense in the previous 180 days. Long-acting opioids include oxycodone, fentanyl, hydromorphone, morphine, oxycodone, and morphine/naloxone.

(9) Opioid naive patients are those with no opioid dispense in the previous 180 days. Long-acting opioids include oxycodone, fentanyl, hydromorphone, morphine, oxycodone, and morphine/naloxone.

Patient(s) to whom you prescribed buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone)

Name	PHN	SEX	DOB
Green, Moa	UL000000000	M	1958-12-27

Patient(s) receiving opioid: at an average dose of 90 OME/day or higher

Name	PHN	SEX	DOB	OME/day
Miyak, Link	UL000000000	M	1955-10-21	746.7
LaRae, Johnny	UL000000000	M	1967-05-28	440.0

# MD SNAPSHOT- PRESCRIBING

Current focus: opioids and BDZs

High Risk Measures

Companion materials, e.g., CPGs,  
CPD, FAQs, etc.

Delivery through CPSA Physician  
Portal (March 2019)

# MD SNAPSHOT EVOLVING MEASURES

- **Opioids**

- # of Pts. prescribed opioids
- Average OME/day per patient
- Pts. receiving opioids from 3 or more providers
- Pts. receiving  $\geq 90$  OME/day from all prescribers
- Concurrent Opioid + Benzo prescribed only by report recipient
- Opioid Naïve patients initiated on a Long Acting Opioid
- Pts. prescribed Suboxone<sup>®</sup>

- **Benzodiazepines**

- # of Pts. prescribed benzos
- Average DDD per patient
- Pts. receiving  $\geq 2$  DDD from all prescribers
- Pts. receiving 3 or more benzo ingredients
- Pts. receiving benzos from 3 or more prescribers
- Seniors receiving benzos

- **Antibiotics**

- 2019-2020



# DATA LIMITATIONS

## Available

- Prescriber
  - Including PCN membership starting 2019
- Patient
- Pharmacy
- Drug
  - Strength
  - Quantity
- Peer Comparison groups

## Unavailable

- Indication for use
- Days Supply
- Physician panel size
- Practice type

## Challenges

- PIN data quality
  - Pharmacy Errors
- Reversals
- Compounded Prescriptions
- Forged prescriptions

# PEER COMPARATOR GROUPS

## Breakdown of Comparator Groups by prescribing domain

### *Opioids*

- Family Medicine, Family Medicine (Sport and Exercise), General Practice
- Cardiology, Endocrinology & Metabolism, Gastroenterology, General Internal Medicine, Hematology, Internal Medicine, Nephrology, Neurology, Physical Medicine & Rehab, Respirology and Rheumatology
- Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Head and Neck Surgery, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Urology and Vascular Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Anesthesiology and Family Medicine (Family Practice Anesthesia)
- Emergency Medicine and Family Medicine (Emergency Medicine)

### *BDZ (including Z-Drugs)*

- Family Medicine, Family Medicine (Care of the Elderly), Family Medicine (Sport and Exercise Medicine) and General Practice
- Cardiology, Clinical Immunology & Allergy, Dermatology, Endocrinology & Metabolism, Gastroenterology, General Internal Medicine, Hematology, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Nephrology, Neurology, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Respirology and Rheumatology
- Cardiac Surgery, Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, Colorectal surgery, General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery and Urology
- Psychiatry
- Anesthesiology and Family Medicine (Family Practice Anesthesia)
- Emergency Medicine and Family Medicine (Emergency Medicine)

# MD SNAPSHOT-PRESCRIBING SURVEY RESULTS

Snapshot Iteration	1 <sup>st</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Data From (Quarter)</b>	Q3 2016	Q3 2017	Q1 2018	Q2 2018
<b>Date R<sub>x</sub> Snapshot Sent</b>	Q4 2016 (Dec. 2016)	Q4 2017 (Nov. 2017)	Q2 2018 (May 2018)	Q3 2018 (Aug. 2018)
<b>R<sub>x</sub> Snapshot Population</b>	All MDs that had prescribed an opioid or benzo in Q3 2016	All MDs that initiated a long- acting opioid in an opioid naïve patient in Q3 2017	All MDs* that had prescribed an opioid or benzo in Q1 2018	All MDs that had prescribed an opioid and benzodiazepine to the same patient in Q2 2018
<b># Snapshots Sent</b>	8,213	749	7,230	4,045
<b>Date Survey Open</b>	Dec. 2016-Jan. 2017	Jan. 2018	June 2018	Sept. 2018
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	27% (n=2,184)	13% (n=99)	14% (n=989)	11% (n=456)
<b>Total # Survey Questions</b>	6 (5 closed; 1 open)	9 (8 closed; 1 open)	9 (7 closed; 2 open)	8 (7 closed; 1 open)

CPSA  
STANDARDS  
OF PRACTICE



Continuity of  
Care



Patient Record  
Content



Prescribing

# MYTHS

- Physician fines are not imposed in regards to prescribing practices
- Out of 12,000 physicians in Alberta, less than 30 CURRENTLY have restrictions to their prescribing privileges
- Restrictions are for various reasons – not only inappropriate Rx

# WHY?

- To help identify at risk patients that might be vulnerable
- Patients on LT opioid therapy who are now aging and developing more comorbidities: eg. COPD/sleep apnea, changes in metabolism
- To help physicians reflect on their practice and prescribing patterns
- To help physicians identify if their patients are receiving Rx's outside of their practice