

## Appendix D. Use of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Reporting System [www.nccsrs.org](http://www.nccsrs.org)

### What is the NC CSRS?

- A controlled substance prescription reporting system that allows registered dispensers and prescribing practitioners to review a patient's controlled substances prescription history on the web.

### How Does the System Work?

- All prescriptions for controlled substances, schedule II through V, dispensed in North Carolina are reported into the NC CSRS database. Pharmacies are required to report the data every 72 hours.
- Prescribers and pharmacists can register to gain access to the online system to look up a patient's controlled substances prescription history. Prescribers may legally query the system for their patients only.
- Registered prescribers can also delegate someone under their supervision to run queries for their patients. The delegate must register with the NC CSRS and will have their own login credentials. Guidelines and directions for setting up a delegate account can be found on the website ([www.nccsrs.org](http://www.nccsrs.org)).

### What Should I do with this Data?

- The NC CSRS is intended to assist you in providing better care to your patients through monitoring their safety and adherence to legally prescribed controlled substances. It is important that you inform your patients that you are using this system to ensure their well-being and quality of care. It is also important to assure your patients that the NC CSRS data is not openly shared with nonregistered providers and law enforcement or used as means to exclude them from future physical and behavioral health services.
- If the data reveal that the patient *may* be seeking, misusing, or diverting large quantities of controlled substances or seeking prescriptions from multiple providers, then the practitioner should discuss this with the patient in a nonjudgmental manner and contact the NC CSRS to discuss with a representative.
- If you believe the patient is abusing controlled substances, educate the patient about the risks and refer the patient to a behavioral health provider for substance misuse screening, assessment, and/or treatment if needed.

### What Shouldn't I do with this data?

- **The NC CSRS is not intended as a mechanism to exclude or discharge patients** without first offering intervention or referral to treatment for management of substance abuse and/or pain.
- **The NC CSRS is also not intended as a law enforcement investigative or reporting tool.** If you suspect the patient is inappropriately requesting controlled prescriptions from multiple providers, otherwise known as "doctor shopping", or committing prescription fraud please contact the NC CSRS program representatives for further guidance.

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