

April 1, 2014

To: The PDMP-Health IT Integration Initiative Team Members

From: The National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities (NASCSA)

Re: Endorsement of letter from the Alliance of States with Prescription Monitoring Programs (ASPMP) regarding the “Proposal for PMP Data Sharing between PMPs/PDMPs and Health IT Systems and associated exchange partners as defined in the PDMP-Health IT Integration Initiative”

NASCSA recognizes that pharmacy systems, e-prescribing systems, and EHR systems may all use different standards to facilitate the exchange of information that meets the needs of their specific business models. The use of “Gateway/Translation” technologies discussed in the letter from ASPMP on March 28, 2014 is exactly the type of solution needed to meet the needs of all interested parties to facilitate the integration of PMP data with Health IT platforms.

Prescription drug abuse is a major public health and safety concern across America. NASCSA, for almost 30 years, has supported efforts that reduce the misuse, abuse, and diversion of controlled substances. Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMP) have long been a focus of our organization as evidenced by its supporting the efforts of ASPMP, the development of model laws to assist in standardizing PMPs, and participation and development of working relationships with other national organizations and federal agencies working in this area.

NASCSA’s membership consists of state controlled substance authorities in 49 states to include the District of Columbia and Guam. Associate members are entities or persons with a stated interest in drug control and include pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors, pharmacy chains, pharmacy organizations, PMP software application vendors and other organizations.

NASCSA’s membership has approved eight resolutions since 2010 that address the use of PMPs, support for PMPs, endorse model language for PMPs, promote state laws and regulations to allow for e-prescribing, and encourage interoperability and integration of PMP data between states and with health information technology platforms.

State PMPs face unique challenges but have grown dramatically in the last decade. Interoperability between state programs is now a reality in many states with more being added it seems every month. Integration pilots have been successfully completed and there is tremendous excitement connected with integrating PMP data into healthcare professionals’ workflow. PMPs long ago began working on a solution that would allow PMPs to share data securely across stateliness and that solution is the PMIX Architecture.

Therefore, NASCSA endorses the letter sent to the PDMP-Health IT Integration Initiative Team Members on March 28, 2014.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the NASCSA Executive Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph A. Orr", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ralph A. Orr
President
National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities