

For Immediate Release

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Contact: William A. Lockwood, Jr.
610/825-7783
wal@computertalk.com

ASAP Announces New Standard for Connectivity to Prescription Monitoring Programs

The new standard from the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) is designed to facilitate bidirectional connections between pharmacies, prescribers, and prescription monitoring programs (PMPs).

The standard uses a Web service to activate queries directly from a pharmacy management or EHR system. This avoids having to step out of the workflow to check on a person of interest. The standard also eliminates the need for a prescription monitoring program to send out alerts via email, fax, or regular mail. This is accomplished through an automated poll of the PMP on a daily basis directly from the pharmacy management or EHR system to see if there is anyone who has reached the state's threshold for an alert.

The *Implementation Guide for the ASAP Prescription Monitoring Program Web Service Standard* includes sections showing examples of an ad hoc query and response, use of a "pick list" in a response, and an automated "poll" query and response.

Also included is an example program to implement the standard.

Work on the Web service standard involved the participation of 25 individuals, representing a range of stakeholders.

The *Implementation Guide for the ASAP Prescription Monitoring Program Web Service Standard* rounds out the suite of ASAP standards for prescription monitoring programs. In addition to the ASAP standard used in every state for reporting to PMPs, ASAP developed a Zero Report standard and an Error Report standard.

As is the custom of ASAP, the new standard is available to prescription monitoring programs at no charge upon request. Other organizations and companies can purchase the new standard by going to asapnet.org.

American Society for Automation in Pharmacy

492 Norristown Road, Suite 160, Blue Bell, PA 19422

610/825-7783 (phone) 610/825-7641 (fax) www.asapnet.org

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