“Prescription Monitoring Program: A Law Enforcement Perspective”

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WARREN COUNTY  DRUG TASK FORCE

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PHARMACEUTICAL DIVERSION

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- Coordinator- Southwestern Ohio HIDTA Major Case Initiative
- President-National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI)
- 32 years Cincinnati Police Division
- Commander Pharmaceutical Diversion Squad
- Six investigators, one secretary
Prescription Monitoring Programs

- Rx abuse accounts for 25-30% of the overall drug problem in America
- Critical need to address drug diversion issues in individual states - not Federally
- PMP should be managed by state health care agency (Pharmacy Board)
- Extreme care taken to prevent improprieties in the system
PMP Construction

- Information available quickly and easily (Internet)
- Totally secure
- Information available to prescribers and dispensers
- Information available to law enforcement
- Avoid requirements for LE to obtain subpoena, search warrant, etc.
PMP Construction

- Include **ALL** Controlled Substances and managing agency’s choice of abused NCS
- Provide administrative sanctions for prescriber and dispenser misuse
- Provide criminal offense for LE or prescriber/dispenser misuse
- Training for all of the above
Should include ability to access bordering states

Optimum situation that information is available immediately after Rx is filled

LE access to include quick and easy supervisory review (checks and balance)
Value of PMP

- Identify and arrest perpetrators
- Can provide early meaningful rehabilitation opportunities for addicts (Justice mandate)
- Identify health care fraud (Medicaid/Worker’s Compensation/Private Insurance)
- Program likely to pay for itself in reduction of state health care benefits to drug diverters
- Significant ultimate benefit to legitimate patients— the real GOAL!
PMP Needs

- Vast majority of police departments have no one working on drug diversion
- Legislation should include grant monies to hire, train, and encourage LE to address this problem
- In order for the PMP to be optimally effective, need to provide LE agencies with funding to hire investigators