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**2014-15 Biennial Budget - Pharmacy, Board of**

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**Mission:**

The Minnesota Board of Pharmacy exists to protect the public from adulterated, misbranded, and illicit drugs, and from incompetent, unethical, illegal or unprofessional conduct on the part of pharmacists or other licensees and registrants.

**Statewide Outcome(s):**

Pharmacy, Board of supports the following statewide outcome(s).

Minnesotans are healthy.

**Context:**

The Minnesota Board of Pharmacy addresses the following key issues: the safe distribution and use of human and veterinary prescription drugs; abuse of prescription and illicit drugs; and pharmaceutical waste. The priorities of the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy are: preventing morbidity and mortality associated with the improper use of human prescription drugs; preventing improper use of veterinary prescription drugs so as to minimize the risk that citizens will be exposed to such drugs in the foods that they eat; preventing abuse of both prescription and illicit drugs; and helping to reduce the production and improper disposal of hazardous pharmaceutical waste.

The primary individuals served by the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy are the citizens and residents of the State of Minnesota. The customers to whom the Board provides *specific* services include: licensees and registrants; other state government agencies to which the Board provides consultation or services; and federal agencies with which the Board works.

The Board is primarily funded through licensing and registration fees. One of the Board's programs, the Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program, is currently funded through a combination of: a portion of the licensing and registration fees collected by the Board, a portion of the licensing fees collected by other boards that license prescribers, a federal grant, and a grant from the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities.

**Strategies:**

The Board addresses the key issues identified above by: issuing licenses and registrations to individuals and businesses; inspecting facilities located within the state that are licensed or registered by the Board; investigating complaints and taking disciplinary action against licensees and registrants; providing education and consultation concerning the distribution of drugs and the provision of pharmacy services; operating the Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program; working with the Legislature, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and law enforcement officials to place dangerous, illicit drugs into the appropriate state controlled substances schedule; and working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and others to try to minimize the production of pharmaceutical waste and to ensure that such waste is properly disposed of.

The Board of Pharmacy contributes to statewide outcomes by engaging in the activities listed in the previous paragraph. Some activities listed keep Minnesotans healthy by helping to prevent problems associated with improper use of prescription drugs. Some activities keep Minnesotans healthy by helping to reduce prescription and illicit drug abuse. Reducing drug abuse keeps Minnesotans safe by helping to decrease accidents caused by drug-impaired individuals. The final activity listed above contributes to a clean, healthy environment by reducing the amount of pharmaceuticals that end up in the waste stream.

**Results:**

The Board believes that the activities mentioned above help to reduce the number of medication errors that adversely impact the health of Minnesotans. However, many factors are involved when analyzing the specific impact that pharmaceuticals have on the health of citizens. The Board has an influence on only some of those factors. Consequently, it is difficult to determine the precise impact that the Board has on the health of citizens.

However, the Board has promulgated rules that require its licensees and registrants to follow standards recommended by several other organizations involved in health care standard setting. The Board helps to ensure that the standards are followed by conducting routine, unannounced inspections of the in-state facilities that it licenses and by investigating the complaints that it receives from the public. Thus, while the precise impact of the Board is difficult to assess, it is a reasonable to assume that, by actively promoting the above-mentioned standards, the Board is having a positive impact on the public health.

The Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program helps to prevent drug abuse by reducing doctor-shopping behaviors. (Doctor shopping occurs when an individual receives prescriptions from multiple prescribers and has them filled at multiple pharmacies in a short period of time).

Performance Measures	Previous	Current	Trend
Percentage of complaints investigated and resolved within 12 months <sup>1</sup>	84.3%	89.4%	Improving
Percentage of in-state facility inspections completed annually <sup>2 *</sup>	24.2%	27.7%	Improving
Number of individuals who receive prescriptions from five or more prescribers and have them filled at five or more pharmacies within a six month period of time <sup>3</sup>	2,492	2,881	Stable <sup>~</sup>

Performance Measures Notes:

1. Previous data is FY 2009. Current data is FY 2011. Source: Board's Disciplinary, Regulatory and Licensing Information Management System database.
2. Previous data is FY 2010. Current data is FY 2012. Source: Board's Disciplinary, Regulatory and Licensing Information Management System database. \*Does not include opening inspections of new facilities.
3. Previous data is the first half of FY 2010. Current data is the first half of FY 2012. Source: Board's Prescription Monitoring Program database. ~When adjusted for the number of individuals receiving controlled substance prescriptions (which increased from 2010 to 2012), the difference is less than 0.03 percent.