



XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General

Frequently Asked Questions

[Home](#) / [PDMP / CURES](#) / [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

CURES 2.0

What information may be obtained from CURES?

Who has access to CURES information?

How can I submit a research request?

Who is required to register for CURES?

What is the registration process for access to CURES 2.0?

What Internet browsers are required for CURES 2.0 access?

What do I do if the information in CURES is not correct?

How can I, as a patient, get a copy of my CURES prescription history report from the DOJ?

If a current CURES user is locked out of the system, how can he/she regain access?

What are Patient Alerts?

Are prescribers required to consult CURES?

To whom does the mandatory CURES consultation requirement apply?

Under what circumstances are health care practitioners required to consult CURES?

What exemptions apply to the mandatory consultation requirement?

What information may be obtained from CURES?

The Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) stores Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substance prescription information reported as dispensed in California. CURES contains the following information: patient name, patient date of birth, patient address, prescriber name, prescriber DEA number, pharmacy name, pharmacy license number, date prescription was filled, prescription number, drug name, form, quantity and strength, refill number, and number of days supply.

[Back to Top](#)

Who has access to CURES information?

As outlined in Health & Safety Code section 11165.1(a)(1)(A), prescribers authorized to prescribe, order, administer, furnish, or dispense Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances, and pharmacists, may access CURES data for patient care purposes.

Additionally, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 11165(c)(2), CURES data is available to appropriate state, local, and federal public agencies, law enforcement, and regulatory boards for disciplinary, civil, or criminal purposes. The Department of Justice (DOJ) may also provide data to other agencies and entities for educational, peer review, statistical, or research purposes, provided that patient identity information is not disclosed.

[Back to Top](#)

How Can I submit a research request?

In accordance with California Health & Safety Code section 11165(c)(2)(A) CA DOJ may provide CURES data to public or private entities, as approved by the CA DOJ, for educational, peer review, statistical, or research purposes, provided that the patient information, including any information that may identify the patient, is not compromised.

To request CURES data for any of the above listed purposes, or for additional information about the data request process, you can go to the Research Center “Data Request Process” website at <https://oag.ca.gov/research-center/request-process>.

[Back to Top](#)

Who is required to register for CURES?

Effective July 1, 2016, prescribers who obtain a Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration certificate are required to register for CURES. Registration requirements are not based on dispensing, prescribing, or administering activities but, rather, on possession of a DEA registration certificate AND valid California licensure as any one of the following:

Dentist

Medical Physician

Naturopathic Physician

Optometrist

Osteopathic Physician

Physician Assistant

Podiatrist

Registered Certified Nurse Midwife

Registered Nurse Practitioner (Furnishing)

Veterinarian

Effective July 1, 2016, pharmacists are required to register for CURES upon receipt of their license. Registration requirements are not based on dispensing, prescribing, or administering activities but, rather, on valid California licensure as a pharmacist.

[Back to Top](#)

What is the registration process for access to CURES 2.0?

Registration, for California-licensed prescribers and pharmacists, is fully automated. Applicants must complete the online registration form and provide a valid email address, medical or pharmacist license number, and DEA registration certificate number (prescribers only.)

[Back to Top](#)

What Internet browsers are required for CURES 2.0 access?

CURES 2.0 users must use Microsoft Internet Explorer version 11.0 or higher, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari. Earlier versions of Internet Explorer are not supported by CURES 2.0 for security considerations.

[Back to Top](#)

What do I do if the information in CURES is not correct?

Data contained in CURES is reported to the DOJ by pharmacies and direct dispensers. If you are a patient or prescriber with incorrect information on your CURES report, please notify the reporting pharmacy of the error. Only the original reporting pharmacy or dispenser may submit prescription corrections to the DOJ.

For information on how to submit controlled substance prescription data or data corrections, pharmacies and direct dispensers may contact Atlantic Associates, Inc. by email at CACures@aainh.com or by phone at (800) 539-3370.

[Back to Top](#)

How can I, as a patient, get a copy of my CURES prescription history report from the DOJ?

An individual can obtain his or her CURES prescription history report through the Information Practices Act (IPA). Prescription dispensation records contain the following information for each dispensation reported: patient name, patient date of birth, patient address, prescriber name, prescriber DEA number, pharmacy name, pharmacy license number, date prescription was filled, prescription number, drug name, form, quantity and strength, refill number, and number of days supply.

For more information or to obtain a CURES IPA Request Form, contact the CURES Help Desk at cures@doj.ca.gov.

[Back to Top](#)

If a current CURES user is locked out of the system, how can he/she regain access?

CURES 2.0 users are provided easy, intuitive online assistance for password resets. Links to these services are on the CURES 2.0 login page. Additionally, users may contact the CURES Help Desk at (916) 210-3187 or cures@doj.ca.gov.

[Back to Top](#)

What are Patient Alerts?

CURES 2.0 provides alerts to clinicians when their patient's aggregate prescription level exceeds certain thresholds. Alerts are presented at the following therapy thresholds:

1. Patient is currently prescribed more than 90 morphine milligram equivalents per day

2. Patient has obtained prescriptions from 6 or more prescribers or 6 or more pharmacies during last 6 months
3. Patient is currently prescribed more than 40 morphine milligram equivalents of methadone daily
4. Patient is currently prescribed opioids more than 90 consecutive days
5. Patient is currently prescribed both benzodiazepines and opioids

The CURES 2.0 system also provides prescribers and dispensers with a messaging capability that allows a message to be sent to a prescriber regarding a mutual patient from within the secure CURES 2.0 environment

[Back to Top](#)

Are prescribers required to consult CURES?

Effective October 2, 2018, with specified exceptions, health care practitioners authorized to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish a controlled substance shall consult the CURES database to review a patient's controlled substance history no earlier than 24 hours, or the previous business day, before prescribing a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance to the patient for the first time and at least once every 4 months thereafter if the substance remains part of the treatment of the patient. (Health and Safety Code section 11165.4(a)(1)(A)(i))

For additional information regarding the CURES consultation requirement, please refer to the Medical Board of California's FAQs

[Back to Top](#)

To whom does the mandatory CURES consultation requirement apply?

The mandatory consultation requirement applies to any health care practitioner with both (1) a Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance Registration Certificate and (2) a California licensure as any one of the following:

Dentist

Physician

Naturopathic Doctor

Optometrist

Osteopathic Doctor

Physician Assistant

Podiatrist

Registered Certified Nurse Midwife (Furnishing)

Registered Nurse Practitioner (Furnishing)

However, the mandatory consultation requirement **does not apply** to the following health care practitioners:

Veterinarians

Pharmacists

[Back to Top](#)

Under what circumstances are health care practitioners required to consult CURES?

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11165.4(a), the mandatory consultation requirement requires health care practitioners to consult the CURES database to review a patient's controlled substance history under both of the following circumstances:

1. Before prescribing a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance to the patient for the first time; and
2. At least once every four months thereafter if the substance remains part of the treatment of the patient.

"First time" means the initial occurrence in which a health care practitioner, in his or her role as a health care practitioner, intends to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish a Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance to a patient and has not previously prescribed a controlled substance to the patient.

[Back to Top](#)

What exemptions apply to the mandatory consultation requirement?

There are several exemptions to the mandatory use requirement outlined in Health and Safety Code section 11165.4(b) and (c). You may refer to the statute for detailed information concerning the exemptions.

For assistance determining if an exemption is applicable to you, please contact your licensing board.

[Back to Top](#)
