



## You're registered with CURES - now what?

All prescribers in California with U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registrations are required to register by July 1 to access California's prescription drug monitoring program, known as CURES 2.0 (Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System). Additionally, prescribers must have updated browsers to access the system. Prescription drug monitoring programs are used in most states to aid prescribers and dispensers to identify fraudulent or drug-seeking activity by a patient. Dentists are strongly encouraged to consult CURES when considering a controlled substance prescription for a new patient or a patient suspected of drug dependency.

Available at [oag.ca.gov](http://oag.ca.gov), the Department of Justice has [training videos](#), [FAQs](#) and a [User Guide](#) that is particularly helpful for first-time CURES users. The User Guide includes information on how staff members may assist with record searches, how to save searches, how to receive patient activity alerts, how to communicate with other prescribers and dispensers, and much more.

Following are some common questions and answers related to the use of CURES:

### **What CURES functions may I delegate to staff?**

Staff officially registered with CURES as a “delegate” to the “parent” prescriber or dispenser user may initiate a search for the patient activity report (PAR). The actual report, containing the patient's history, can only be viewed by the “parent” prescriber or dispenser user.

From their own user profile, prescribers and dispensers can view, add and remove delegates.

### **May the patient get a copy of the report?**

CURES records are maintained by the Department of Justice and patients can obtain their CURES records by making a direct request to the Department of Justice pursuant to the California Information Practices Act (civ:1798-1798.1). Should a patient request a copy from you, the patient can be referred to the CURES general mailbox, [cures@doj.ca.gov](mailto:cures@doj.ca.gov), to request information on how to obtain copies of their records.

### **Am I required to report what I prescribe, administer or dispense to CURES?**

You are not required to report to CURES what you prescribe and administer to patients. However, prescribers must file reports of dispensed controlled substances through the state Department of Justice's third-party vendor, and not through CURES. Dispensing prescribers should refer to the [CURES website for information](#).

### **Who monitors the use of the CURES database?**

The state Department of Justice is tasked with auditing the database and its users. Dissemination or distribution of the controlled substance history information to anyone other than the registered user is prohibited. HIPAA and all confidentiality and disclosure provisions of state law cover the information contained in the database. All users of the information must comply with state and federal health information privacy laws. Disciplinary, civil or criminal actions will be taken by the Department of Justice and/or the appropriate licensing agency for any misuse or inappropriate access of patient data.

### **What type of browser do I need to register for CURES?**

To access CURES 2.0, dentists are required to use Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 11.0 or greater, Mozilla FireFox, Google Chrome or Safari. The Department of Justice says dentists must have up-to-date browsers within the first half of this year to regain access to the CURES database.

### **What am I required to do if I move or change my name?**

You must update the information on your account no later than three days after the effective date of the change.

### **Should I use CURES to report the loss or theft of my prescription forms?**

Yes, within three days of the discovery and after you have filed a police report and have the report number in hand, you can log into your CURES account to report the loss or theft of prescription forms. For information concerning how to report lost or stolen prescription pads or forms, please contact the Security Prescription Printer Program at [SecurityPrinter@doj.ca.gov](mailto:SecurityPrinter@doj.ca.gov).

### **Do I have to renew my CURES registration at any point in the future?**

Yes. All CURES 2.0 users are required to renew their accounts on an annual basis. Users receive renewal notifications on the renewal date and 30 days after the user's one-year renewal date.