



# E-FORCSE®: An Invaluable Tool for Clinical Decision-making

The Electronic Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substances Evaluation program (E-FORCSE®), Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), has proven to be an effective tool to protect public health and safety, while supporting sound clinical prescribing, dispensing, and use of controlled substances. Evidence of the effectiveness of E-FORCSE® is documented in its 2014 annual report, which shows a 53 percent decrease in the number of individuals obtaining controlled substance prescriptions from multiple prescribers. Health care practitioner registration has increased by 16 percent in the last year and utilization has increased 64 percent. Additional evidence of effectiveness is reported in the 2013 Medical Examiner's Drugs Identified in Deceased Persons Report, which shows an 8.3 percent decrease in the number of deaths in which one or more controlled substance prescriptions was identified as the primary cause of death, while oxycodone deaths declined by 27.3 percent and overall drug deaths fell by 7.3 percent when compared with 2012.

Created by the Florida Legislature in 2009, E-FORCSE® is part of an initiative to encourage safer prescribing of controlled substances and reduce drug abuse and diversion within the State of Florida. E-FORCSE® provides information to health care practitioners that help guide prescribing and dispensing decisions regarding highly abused prescription drugs.

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs) and other health care practitioners authorized to prescribe or dispense prescription drugs may access the PDMP database to review their specific patients' controlled substance dispensing history, known as a Patient Advisory Report (PAR), pursuant to section 893.055, Florida Statutes. The PAR provides a summary of all controlled substance prescription medications received by a patient during a specified time period.

As of February 28, 2015, eight percent (1,566) of licensed ARNPs have registered for access to E-FORCSE® and 71 percent of those registered ARNPs have requested a PAR. To register for access to E-FORCSE®, please refer to the Training Guide for Florida Practitioners and Pharmacists, which is available at [http://www.hidesigns.com/assets/files/flpdms/2015/FL\\_PDMP\\_Training\\_Guide\\_for\\_Practitioners\\_and\\_Pharmacists.pdf](http://www.hidesigns.com/assets/files/flpdms/2015/FL_PDMP_Training_Guide_for_Practitioners_and_Pharmacists.pdf).