

Article – Health – General

Section 21-2A-01 through 21-2A-09, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
 “Subtitle 2A. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Thousands of Marylanders suffer from chronic pain and other conditions that make access to pain medications and other pharmaceutical therapies necessary and beneficial; and

WHEREAS, Increasing numbers of Maryland adults and adolescents are engaging in prescription drug abuse and diversion to the detriment of their health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Maryland should have a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program that supports the lawful use of controlled substances without interfering with legitimate professional practice and patient care; and

WHEREAS, A Prescription Drug Monitoring Program should assist health care professionals and law enforcement professionals in the identification, treatment, and prevention of prescription drug abuse and in the identification and investigation of unlawful prescription drug diversion; and

WHEREAS, Data concerning monitored prescription drugs under a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program would be available for research purposes, including research about the effects of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program itself; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General

SUBTITLE 2A. PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM.

21-2A-01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “AUTHORIZED RECIPIENT” MEANS:

- (1) A DISPENSER;
- (2) A PRESCRIBER;
- (3) A FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY;
- (4) A STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY;
- (5) A LICENSING ENTITY;