

Guidance Document for the MA PMP MOUD Alert

MA pharmacies are required to report buprenorphine dispensations to the Massachusetts Prescription Monitoring Program (MA PMP). This accounts for most of the buprenorphine provided to residents throughout the Commonwealth. There is, however, a small amount of buprenorphine medication (e.g., injectable buprenorphine administered from facility stock) that is not currently reported to the PMP.

Issue: Poor adherence to Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) protocols for individuals diagnosed with opioid use disorder (OUD) often results in relapse and risk of both non-fatal and fatal overdose. The MA PMP in collaboration with its PMP vendor Bamboo Health has developed functionality in MassPAT and any corresponding PMP application (i.e., the integrated SafeScripts+ application) that alerts prescribers when there is a pre-determined gap in buprenorphine¹ dispensing.

The following guidance is intended for those prescribers and their delegates who receive MOUD alerts.

What will I see when a patient triggers an MOUD Alert?

- Prescribers and their delegates will receive an email that a patient has triggered an alert. Additionally, an alert indicator will be featured on the dashboard when logging into the MassPAT web portal or via the integrated setting in your electronic health record (EHR) system. Delegates (individuals who must have a supervisor who is authorized to prescribe controlled medications) do not have access to the integrated platform and will need to log into MassPAT to see the alert on the patient's dashboard.

How did we determine what criteria to use for the MOUD Alert?

- The MA PMP has engaged with researchers at Northeastern University (NEU) to better understand the nature and extent of poor adherence to MOUD. NEU interviewed addiction medicine prescribers and patients who have been prescribed buprenorphine to identify the characteristics that are associated with both poor and successful medication adherence. This research has also provided guidance in establishing the criteria used for the MOUD Alert; however, we will also be able to adjust the criteria as we learn what works best over time.

The associated alerts and indicators will be triggered for patients who have received at least one buprenorphine prescription with a 45-day lookback period and have not received another buprenorphine prescription 8 days after the “*Days Supply*” of the most recent buprenorphine Rx. See Appendix A for some possible MOUD Alert scenarios.

¹ Currently, buprenorphine is the only MOUD medication that the MA PMP monitors. If other medications (e.g., methadone) begin to be reported to the MA PMP this feature can also be used to alert providers to gaps in other MOUD medications.

How will prescribers and delegates be notified of a patient's gap in buprenorphine therapy?

- Providers who have active MassPAT accounts (either a prescriber or their authorized delegate) will be notified if one of their patients has a gap in buprenorphine medication by email AND through an alert that will pop up on the dashboard when they log into MassPAT. They will also see an indicator on the individual's patient report within the 'State Indicators' tile.

The screenshot displays the MassPAT dashboard interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with a 'Menu' icon on the left and a 'Communications' icon on the right. Below the header, the breadcrumb 'Home > Dashboard' is visible. The main content area is titled 'My Dashboard' and is divided into several sections:

- Patient Alerts:** A section with a minus sign icon and the title 'Patient Alerts'. Below it is a table titled 'PATIENT ALERTS' with a 'View All Patient Alerts' link. The table has four columns: 'Patient Full Name', 'DOB', 'Alert Date', and 'Alert Letter'. One alert is shown for 'HILDA REAGAN STREICH' with a 'new' badge, DOB '02/04/2003', Alert Date '06/29/2024', and a 'Download PDF' link.
- Recent Requests:** A section with a minus sign icon and the title 'Recent Requests'. Below it is a table titled 'RECENT REQUESTS' with a 'View Requests History' link. The table contains the text 'No Requests found.'
- Messages/My Care Notes:** A section with the title 'Messages/My Care Notes' and 'Inbox (0)'.
- My Favorites:** A section with the title 'My Favorites' and two links: 'RxSearch - Patient Request' and 'My Mandatory Use Compliance Report'.
- PMP Announcements:** A section with the title 'PMP Announcements' and the text 'No Announcements Available.'
- Quick Links:** A section with the title 'Quick Links' and three links: 'Test Link', 'Google Home', and 'Testing'.

At the bottom of the dashboard, there is a footer area with the text 'Powered By' followed by the 'Bamboo Health PMP AWARxE' logo. Below this, there is a copyright notice: '©2024 Bamboo Health. All Rights Reserved. [Privacy Policy](#)'.



Advanced Options ▾ Search using Advanced Options Search

Patient Alerts⁰

Please click the patient name to access the Patient Alert Patient Report.

Patient Full Name	DOB	Alert Date	Alert Type	Alert Letter	Delivery Method
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/24/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/15/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/14/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
NEW HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/13/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/12/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/09/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	07/01/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	06/30/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts
HILDA REAGAN STREICH	02/04/2003	06/29/2024	MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold	Download PDF	Email Notification, Patient Alerts

- The screen shot below provides an example of the patient alert email. It also provides instructions on how to view identifying information about the patient. For security and privacy, the email itself will never include any patient identifying information.

PATIENT ALERT

PMP AWARe - MassPAT has identified one of your patients as having potentially experienced an interruption in MOUD treatment. No conclusions or judgments have been made based on this information.

Log in to [PMP AWARe - MassPAT](#) to view identifying information about this patient and further instruction regarding review of this alert.

If you have never logged in, visit [PMP AWARe - MassPAT](#) to activate your account

We are making no claims of wrongdoing but thought you should be aware of the activities of this person.

This alert serves as a tool for healthcare providers who prescribe buprenorphine to identify patients potentially at risk for non-adherence to their MOUD treatment. It is intended to assist providers who may not have mechanisms in place to track when their patients have an unexpected gap in days supply of their buprenorphine medication. Reaching out to such patients may help improve adherence and reduce the risk of overdose. This alert is not intended to be used as grounds to stop prescribing MOUD or dismiss a patient from your practice.

- The screen shot (see Screen Shot A) below shows what is displayed when you look up a patient in MassPAT and there is an alert for a possible interruption in MOUD treatment. The alert will be displayed under the “*State Indicators*” tile shown below. For more details about the alert, you will need to click on the “*Details*” box displayed at the bottom of the tile (see Screen Shot B).

Screen Shot A

Rubble, Barney 60M [Refine Search](#) Contact the Bamboo Health Knowledge/Help Center

Date of Birth: 02/01/1964 | Recent Address: 121 Intervale Drive Hopkinton, MA 01743 | [View Linked Records \(11\)](#) | [Other Tools/Metrics](#)

One or more patients do not exactly match the search patient demographic information that was sent during search: **Rubble, Barney, 02/01/1964**. The report displayed is for the next best possible match. Please verify the report is for the intended patient before proceeding.

Report generated on **12/06/2024**. Report Date Range: 12/07/2022 - 12/06/2024 [PDF Report](#) [Export](#)

RX Summary

Summary		Narcotics (excluding Buprenorphine)	Buprenorphine
Total Prescriptions	37	Current MME/day	0.00
Total Private Pay	3	30 Day Avg MME/day	0.00
Total Prescribers	9	Current Qty	0
Total Pharmacies	4		

State Indicators (2)

- ⚠ Patient may be experiencing an interruption in MOUD treatment.
- ⚠ Below Daily Active MME Threshold

[Details](#)

Prescribers/Pharmacies in 12 mo.

8 Prescribers **3** Pharmacies

Prescriptions

Total: 37 | Private Pay: 3

Showing 1-15 of 37 Items | View **15 Items** | 1 of 3

Screen Shot B

Rubble, Barney 60M [Refine Search](#) Contact the Bamboo Health Knowledge/Help Center

Additional Indicators Print

An additional risk indicator assessment reveals the following concerns for **Barney Rubble**

⚠ Exceeds MOUD Missed Days Supply Threshold

Description
Generates an alert when a patient fails to refill their Medication for Opioid Use Disorder for more than the specified number of days.

You are receiving this alert because the prescription drug monitoring system has detected a 8 day gap in the days supplied for a patient treated with buprenorphine. This means that buprenorphine has not been dispensed by the pharmacy within 8 days of when the next prescription would be expected either because no prescription was issued, or a prescription was issued but not filled. This gap may indicate a discontinuation in treatment. A discontinuation in treatment may put the patient at risk for overdose.

Patient's Counts Missed Days: 12	Alert Thresholds Days: 8 Include Buprenorphine: true Include Naltrexone: false Include Methadone: false
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Alert Date: 12/2/2024

⚠ Below Daily Active MME Threshold

Patient's Counts 0	Alert Thresholds 60
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[Close](#)

Questions or Assistance

If you need any assistance or have any questions related to the MOUD alert or the MA PMP please contact: mapmp.dph@mass.gov

Appendix A

The following table depicts some examples of how an alert would/would not be triggered based on the specified criteria and days supply coverage for buprenorphine:

	September	October	November	December	Alert (Y/N)
Start Date ¹ Dec 15, 2024	Dispensation History				
Patient A	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 9/10 and a 30 Days Supply ²	No Bup Rx	No Bup Rx	No Bup Rx	N
Patient B	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 9/16 and a 30 Days Supply	No Bup Rx	No Bup Rx	No Bup Rx	Y
Patient C	No Bup Rx	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 10/31 and a 15 Days Supply	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 11/21 and a 7 Days Supply	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 12/3 and a 7 Days Supply	N
Patient D	No Bup Rx	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 10/18 and a 15 Days Supply	1 Bup Rx with Date Sold = 11/01 and a 15 Days Supply	No Bup Rx	Y

Criteria:

¹ Lookback period is **45 days** based on the Date Sold (i.e., any bup scripts with Days Supply ending prior to November 1, 2024 would not trigger an alert).

² 8 Day Gap from last days supply

Patient A: No alert would be triggered because the lookback period begins on Dec 15 and it was beyond the 45 day lookback period that would trigger an alert; therefore the system would not alert the prescriber about this patient.

Patient B: An alert would be triggered because the patient's most recent bup Rx falls within the lookback period, which begins on Dec 15 and there was a greater than 8-day gap since the days supply ended on 10/10/24.

Patient C: No alert would be triggered; the patient was within the 45 day lookback period, but the 8-day gap threshold was not exceeded (largest gap was 5 days).

Patient D: An alert would be triggered because the patient did not receive any bup Rx in December and the 8-day gap was exceeded.