



VERITAS

COMPLIANCE & ANALYTICS, LLC

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VERITAS RESOURCE SERIES

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RESOURCE SERIES

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COULD THIS PRESCRIBER WARRANT A CLOSER LOOK PRESCRIBER RED FLAG SELF-ASSESSMENT

A Pharmacy Guide to Identifying Potentially Concerning Prescribing Patterns



POTENTIAL RED FLAG CATEGORIES



PRESCRIBER ACTIVITY

Unusual
prescribing
volume or
patterns



PATIENT PATTERNS

Similar
controlled
substance
regimens across
multiple patients



PRESCRIBER / PHARMACY RELATIONSHIPS

Unusual
concentration of
prescriptions or
patient activity



DOSAGE / QUANTITY

Prescribing
patterns that
appear inconsistent
with expected
practice



GEOGRAPHIC PATTERNS

Patient,
prescriber, and
pharmacy
locations that
raise questions



DOCUMENTATION

Information
accompanying
prescriptions
that warrants
clarification

Answer each question honestly. Choose the response that best reflects your current observations and practices.

		YES	NO	NOT SURE
01	Have you identified prescribing patterns from this prescriber that appear unusual compared with other prescribers serving a similar patient population?	☐	☐	☐
02	Have multiple patients presented with similar controlled substance prescribing patterns?	☐	☐	☐
03	Does this prescriber prescribe unusually high doses or quantities of controlled substances?	☐	☐	☐
04	Do you receive prescriptions from this prescriber for patients who travel long distances or appear to have no apparent connection to the area?	☐	☐	☐
05	Are there patterns involving multiple prescribers, pharmacies, or patients that raise questions?	☐	☐	☐
06	Are prescriptions from this prescriber frequently accompanied by refill requests, or do they lack appropriate clinical documentation or rationale?	☐	☐	☐
07	Has your pharmacy documented concerns or unusual activity related to this prescriber?	☐	☐	☐



If you answered "No" or "Not Sure" to one or more questions, it may indicate an area that deserves additional review. Patterns should be evaluated in context and may warrant further analysis.



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WHEN THE PATTERN DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT

1



PAUSE

Something doesn't look right.

2



REVIEW

Can your pharmacy explain the pattern?

3



ESCALATE

Does the concern warrant additional review?

QUESTIONS WORTH ASKING

- ✓ Can the prescribing pattern be explained by the prescriber's specialty or patient population?
- ✓ Has someone with appropriate compliance or investigative expertise reviewed the pattern?
- ✓ Could the pattern indicate potential diversion, misuse, or other compliance risk?
- ✓ Does the available documentation support the prescribing activity?
- ✓ Has the pharmacy documented previous concerns?
- ✓ Is the activity consistent over time?
- ✓ Are there multiple indicators occurring together?
- ✓ Are there established internal processes for escalating and documenting concerns?

VERITAS PERSPECTIVE



A red flag is a reason to look closer - not a conclusion.

Meaningful assessment requires context, data, documentation, and professional judgment.

SEEING A PATTERN YOU CAN'T EXPLAIN?

Veritas Compliance & Analytics can help pharmacies evaluate controlled substance prescribing patterns, identify potential areas of concern, and assess whether additional compliance review may be warranted.



COMPLIANCE
ASSESSMENTS



DATA
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