

### Protecting the Health of Iowans through the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) and the Lock-In (LI) Program

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States. The number of unintentional overdose fatalities is increasing. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) states, "The impact of drug diversion on the Medicaid program goes beyond just the cost of the prescription drugs. There are also the costs associated with doctor's visits, emergency department (ED) treatment, rehabilitation centers, and other health care needs, not to mention the human toll."

The Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) reported a 1,300 percent increase in fatal opiate overdoses from 2000-2009. More Americans now die from drug overdoses than car accidents. In the US, there were 6,000 deaths in 1980 and over 36,500 in 2008.

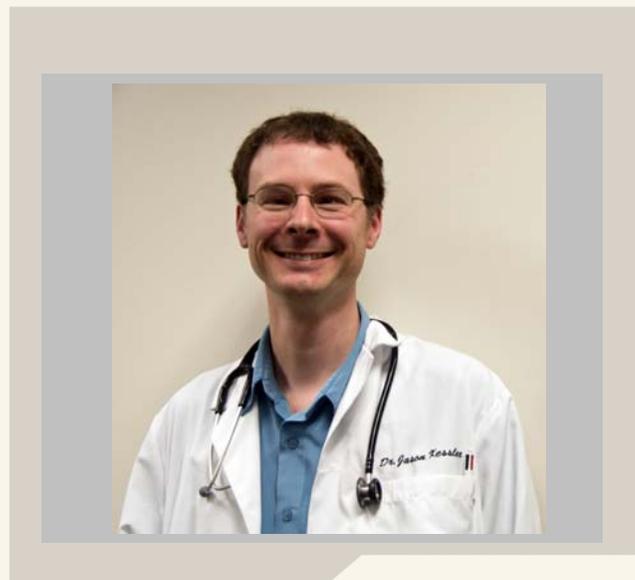
The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) Lock-in program was designed to prevent abuse and overuse of Medicaid Services. One way that a member can be placed into Lock-in is for poly-pharmacy use and/or prescription shopping. When a member is placed into Lock-in, they are assigned to one provider who must approve all prescriptions, including controlled substances.

The PMP can assist providers and pharmacists by serving as the first line of defense against prescription shopping and abuse. The PMP allows providers real-time access to information regarding controlled substances. The PMP shows whether a member has filled prescriptions at different pharmacies or from different providers, including those paid for with cash. There are 3,593 prescribers and 1,522 pharmacists registered to use the PMP.

Please consider enrolling to use the PMP.



Jason Kessler, MD, FAAP--Medical Director



### For Further Information

- **Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP):**  
[http://www.state.ia.us/ibpe/pmp/pmp\\_info.html](http://www.state.ia.us/ibpe/pmp/pmp_info.html).
- **IME Lock-In Program/Member Services Unit, including referrals to Lock-In:**  
Call: 1-515-256-4606 (Des Moines area),  
1-800-338-8366 (outside Des Moines area),  
1-515-256-4626 (fax)



[www.ime.state.ia.us](http://www.ime.state.ia.us)