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Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh
Executive Director/Secretary
National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
1600 Feehanville Drive
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Dear Dr. Catizone:

Congratulations on the development of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) software interface intended to facilitate interoperability among state-based prescription monitoring programs (PMP). The American Medical Association (AMA) strongly supports state-based PMP programs and the development and implementation of appropriate technology to allow for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-compliant sharing of information on prescriptions for controlled substances among states. Additionally, the AMA supports a platform which offers the treating physician real-time access to their patient's controlled substance prescription history. We share your hope that state-by-state adoption of NABP's PMP InterConnect™ will enable the early detection of doctor shopping, facilitate appropriate interventions for substance misuse, and reduce diversion of controlled substances.

It is my understanding that the state of Ohio has fully integrated its PMP with the InterConnect™ hub, and several other states are in the process. As various states adopt this software interface, we would be pleased to engage our state medical association network, and to encourage the use of PMPs as a tool to assist prescribers in managing patient care and determining appropriate therapy.

To facilitate communication of ongoing developments in this area, please send updates to the following AMA staff members.

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Sincerely,

James L. Madara, MD

cc: Michael Glasstetter, JD
Barry Dickinson, PhD