**Title:** The Impact of Pennsylvania’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program on Opiate Usage and Death Rates

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**Abstract**: States have implemented Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) to reduce both doctor shopping and excessive prescriptions from certain doctors. A stated goal of such programs has been the decrease of opioid usage since database-enabled monitoring can reduce both supply and possibly demand for opioids. My project investigates whether the PDMP in Pennsylvania lowers the rates of opioid usage and opiate-related death. I find that while usage has decreased, death rates have risen. I posit that this occurs because serious drug users substitute for legally obtained opiates with illegally obtained drugs, which are more likely to be fatal.