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Is it mandatory for a clinician to be registered in order to access the PDMPs?

Hello, I am Dr. John J. Coleman and a retired official of the Drug Enforcement Administration. I am also president of Drug Watch International. It is only mandatory in one state right now and that is the state of Kentucky that physicians have to register with the state's prescription drug monitoring program. It is called KASPER which is an acronym for the state's PDMP. And physicians also have to query that system before prescribing controlled substances in Schedule II or Schedule III if they contain hydrocodone. Also, every 3 months of treatment of chronic pain patients in Kentucky, the practitioner must apply again for a KASPER or PDMP report on that particular patient before prescribing or continuing to prescribe controlled substances. Now, we also have in the state of Florida, one county, Sarasota County, where a county ordinance requires pain management clinics that are licensed as such to use the state PDMP before prescribing controlled substances for their patients. There are indications that the state may move to make that a statewide program in the coming legislative session, but right now that program is only mandatory in Sarasota County, Florida. As far as I know, those are the only locations in the United States at present where it is mandatory for practitioners to query the PDMP on a regular basis.