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**From:** Bratton, Edward [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=WALGREENS.ONMICROSOFT.COM-54052-BRATTON, EDWARD J. (EJB4E7BB377)]  
**Sent:** 9/18/2013 11:46:11 AM  
**To:** Polster, Tasha [tasha.polster@walgreens.com]  
**Subject:** RE: Prescriber Indexing Criteria  
**Attachments:** Prescribers for Review by CMO - Leider Criteria v2.xlsx

The initial group of prescribers were selected based on the following criteria within our Oxycodone, Hydromorphone and Methadone indexes.

Overall percentile greater than 99<sup>th</sup>. Overall percentile is derived based on a weighting of rate, percent cash, control percent, and quantity.  
Target quantity percentile of 100<sup>th</sup>.  
Target rate greater than 90<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Control Rx rate greater than 90<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Cash percentile greater than 70<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Immediate release oxycodone greater than 80<sup>th</sup> percentile (for oxycodone ranking, this metric is omitted for other target drugs).

This was done in an effort to narrow the list of prescribers and provide a manageable list for review.

I reran the selection process using the criteria Dr. Leider described below and have attached the results. The resulting list contains 412 prescribers which meet the described criteria.

Those being  
Greater or equal to 98<sup>th</sup> percentile for quantity of Opioids.  
Greater or equal to 500 opioid scripts in a 3 month period.  
Greater than or equal to 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for cash  
Greater than or equal to 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for rate of opioid scripts.

**Edward Bratton**  
Manager - Pharmaceutical Integrity  
Walgreen Co.  
200 Wilmot Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015  
P: 224-226-9494



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**From:** Leider, Harry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2013 7:41 AM  
**To:** Polster, Tasha; Swords, Rex  
**Cc:** Bratton, Edward  
**Subject:** Re: Prescriber Indexing Criteria  
**Importance:** High

Tasha and Rex,

I reviewed this criteria list as well as the list of "outlier" prescribers you sent me on the spreadsheet. In terms of next steps, here are my questions and recommendations for next steps>

Question:

Since there are multiple "criteria" how were the criteria used to create the provider list? It looks like the list is based on identifying prescribers in the 100 percentile for quantity of the target drug... and then we are looking at the other criteria as additional information. Is this correct?

My recommendation is that we set discrete "cutoffs" of a just one or a few of the criteria to create the target list... The ones that make the most sense to me are (in order of importance):

**Primary Screening Criteria for automated Medical Review:**

1. Total quantity of opioid pills prescribed per month (or 90 day): 99/100 percentile – I believe we should start our process by looking at the 99th and 100th percentile of prescriber of opioids. CVS looked at the 98th percentile by volume

**Key Secondary Screening Criteria (used for the secondary Review)**

1. Total number of opioid scripts per month (> 500/month)
2. % cash pay (>50%)
3. Ratio of opioid to total scripts (95 percentile – similar to CVS)

Prescribers that meet the Primary and Secondary Criteria would receive a letter from me as CMO informing them of their "outlier status" and asking for explanation of circumstances that could explain their utilization. I will create a form to facilitate this over the next week.

What do you guys think about this suggested plan?

Be Well,

Harry

**Harry L. Leider, MD, MBA**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Walgreens Company

1415 Lake Cook Road, MS#L444  
Deerfield, IL 60015-5145  
PH: 847-964-6223  
FX: 847-374-2669  
[harry.leider@walgreens.com](mailto:harry.leider@walgreens.com)



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**From:** <Polster>, Tasha <[tasha.polster@walgreens.com](mailto:tasha.polster@walgreens.com)>  
**Date:** Thursday, August 29, 2013 2:09 PM  
**To:** Harry Leider <[harry.leider@walgreens.com](mailto:harry.leider@walgreens.com)>  
**Cc:** "Swords, Rex" <[rex.swords@walgreens.com](mailto:rex.swords@walgreens.com)>, "Bratton, Edward" <[edward.bratton@walgreens.com](mailto:edward.bratton@walgreens.com)>  
**Subject:** Prescriber Indexing Criteria

Harry-

We are just finishing up the list of prescribers for you to look at, and we will have them for you tomorrow.

Here's the criteria we used to filter the outliers based on Target Drugs (Oxycodone, Methadone, Hydromorphone)

- Number of prescriptions written for the drug.
- Total number of tablets/doses written for the target drug.
- Number of prescriptions written for the target drug as a percent of all prescriptions written by the prescriber.
- Number of prescriptions written for a controlled substance as a percent of all prescriptions.
- Number of prescriptions paid for in cash for the target drug as a percent of all scripts written for the target drug.
- Number of scripts written for immediate release oxycodone (15mg & 30mg) of all scripts written for oxycodone (only used in oxycodone index).

The information you will get will have the top 25 prescribers that ranked in the top 100<sup>th</sup> percentile as compared to other prescribers in their same specialty.

Let me know if you have questions or wish to discuss further.

Be well,

Tasha Polster, RPh  
Director, Pharmaceutical Integrity  
847 315 3379

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