TITLE: Focus Groups of Health Providers using Florida’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

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RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE - 
The Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is responsible for consolidating, monitoring and analyzing data reported on all controlled substances in the state. Prescribers are encouraged to use the PDMP as a tool to help reduce the risk of inappropriate prescribing. Use rates indicate that less than 20% of Florida prescribers having a controlled substance license are using the PDMP.

HYPOTHESIS - 
We can increase PDMP usage by identifying barriers to use and opportunities for improvement by conducting several focus groups of prescribers.

METHODS AND MATERIALS AND DATA ANALYSIS – 
Working closely with PDMP staff at the Florida Department of Health, we will identify a sample of prescribers at high, medium, and low levels of PDMP usage (defined by the number of queries to the PDMP database per unit time) and conduct three focus groups in geographically diverse parts of the state.

ROLE OF MEDICAL STUDENT - 
The medical student will work closely with stakeholders to help design, conduct, and analyze qualitative data from at least two focus groups by September 2015.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS –
