

## **DEA Compliance – Member Benefit**

*Mike Warren, ARM, OHST, Risk Manager*

Pharmacists Mutual is pleased to introduce our members to Pharma Compliance Group (PCG). The Pharma Compliance Group is the pharmaceutical industry leader in DEA compliance consulting services. PCG consultants are former DEA Diversion Investigators and are experts relative to DEA compliance. PCG will assist members to adhere to the mandated Controlled Substances Act (CSA) and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). PCG will partner with Pharmacists Mutual members to mitigate risk thus avoiding potential fines and/or adverse actions against your pharmacy state license and/or DEA registration.

The misuse and abuse of prescription medications, specifically opioid narcotics, has become a significant health care crisis in the United States. Recently, law enforcement and regulatory agencies have focused resources on the pharmaceutical industry to provide oversight relative to how controlled substances are manufactured, distributed, prescribed, and dispensed. Several states have initiated litigation targeting the drug manufacturers, wholesale drug distributors, prescribers, as well as retail pharmacies.

PCG has developed and implemented effective compliance programs to ensure due diligence and comprehensive inspection practices. PCG will assist Pharmacists Mutual members to maintain effective DEA compliance and reduce the risk associated with dispensing controlled substances. The PCG compliance program will encapsulate the following:

- Perform onsite DEA compliance evaluation conducted by PCG staff member and former DEA Diversion Investigator to evaluate DEA compliance
- Review pharmacy policies and protocols, including recordkeeping and security procedures, to determine and ensure that pharmacy staff are operating in compliance of the CSA/CFR
- Determine that pharmacy is not filling prescriptions from “high risk” prescribers who write “high risk” prescriptions, specifically practitioners writing for pain management
- Assist pharmacy staff to establish “red flags” relative to dispensing controlled substances
- Develop and implement Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure consistent pharmacy operations and thus ensure compliance

PCG also provides educational and additional resources to help your organization navigate regulations and compliance requirements.

For additional information or to contact us regarding consulting services, please visit the Pharma Compliance Group website at: [www.pharmacocompliancegroup.com](http://www.pharmacocompliancegroup.com)