



# MEDICAL MINUTE *with* **IDFPR**

Quarterly Newsletter

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

FALL 2022

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# LICENSING UPDATE FOR PHYSICIANS

With the next renewal period for physicians and surgeons less than a year away, IDFPR wants to make sure you're prepared to renew your license in 2023. IDFPR will send you an email in early April 2023 when the renewal period opens online. Make sure your contact information is up to date by logging in to your online account here: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/>. At the direction of Governor Pritzker, licensing renewal fees will be waived for physicians and surgeons. For more information, please see our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) [here](#).

You'll be able to renew your license online by going to <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/> and creating an online account. Make sure your account is created and contact information is up to date so IDFPR can send you any important updates regarding your license renewal process.

One hundred fifty (150) Continuing Medical Education (CME) hours are required to renew a physician and surgeon license. More about what's required in those hours may be found [here](#). You may begin your CMEs now leading up to the April 2023 renewal period.

Physicians and surgeons must also complete one hour continuing education on each of the following topics:

## **Safe Opioid Prescribing Training**

The three-hour education requirement for safe prescribing of opioids is applicable to all licensed healthcare professionals who also possess an Illinois Controlled Substance License. See our FAQs [here](#).

## **Sexual Harassment Prevention Training**

The one-hour sexual harassment prevention education mandate applies to ANY profession licensed by IDFPR that requires continuing education as a condition of licensure renewal. See our FAQs [here](#).

## **Recognizing Dementia**

This one-hour requirement applies to every licensed healthcare professional who interacts with patients 26 years of age or older. It involves completing a one-hour training on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Learn more under Sec. 2105-365 [here](#).

## **Implicit Bias**

This one-hour requirement on recognizing implicit bias in health care applies to all licensed healthcare professionals. Learn more under Sec. 2105-15.7 [here](#).

## **Make Sure IDFPR Has Your Updated Contact Information!**

Licensees, make sure your contact information (including email address!) is up to date so we can send you important updates! Update your information through our online portal: <https://ilesonline.idfpr.illinois.gov/DFPR/Default.aspx>

## CDC RELEASES RESOURCE GUIDE ON MONKEYPOX



In case you missed it, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a guide in June 2022 to provide a guide to practicing physicians to assist them in planning and preparing for monkeypox.

The guide focuses on the West African variant of monkeypox, which has been found in the United States. The guide details symptoms of the variant, along with how to diagnose it, what to do when a patient tests positive, and best steps to treat it.

The resource guide may be found [here](#).

# NEW E-PRESCRIBING LAW TAKES EFFECT JANUARY 2023



## Electronic Prescriptions

Effective January 1, 2023, [Public Act 102-0490](#) will require prescribers who write more than 25 prescriptions during a 12-month period (both oral and written) of Schedule II, III, IV or V must be sent and received electronically. The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation shall adopt rules for the administration of this section.

The [Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program \(ILPMP\)](#) is an electronic database that collects dispensing information for Schedule II-V controlled substances and selected drugs of interest. This data is reported on a daily basis by retail pharmacies dispensing in Illinois and displayed for providers to assist with the clinical decision-making process.



## ILLINOIS PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

Under 720 ILCS 570/314.5 of the [Illinois Controlled Substances Act](#), each prescriber possessing an Illinois Controlled Substances license shall register with the Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program (ILPMP).

You can register for an ILPMP account at [ILPMP.org](https://ilpmp.org). The licensee has 90 days from this notice to register with the ILPMP and comply with 720 ILCS 570/314.5. The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) is authorized to impose appropriate discipline where statutory violations are committed. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action against the licensee by IDFPR.

If you have any questions or need any assistance with this request, please email [dhs.pmp@illinois.gov](mailto:dhs.pmp@illinois.gov). A list of frequently asked questions is available at [ILPMP.org](https://ilpmp.org). Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

# DOCTOR, HEAL THYSELF



Medical professionals today experience unprecedented stress and distress, as evidenced by reports of escalating rates of burnout, dissatisfaction with life-work balance and career choice, occurrence of major depressive disorder and substance use and misuse, and unacceptable rates of physician suicide. Professionals are continually faced with many challenges, such as fierce competition to get into postgraduate training, financial burden, keeping abreast with technological advances, reimbursement pressure, and long working hours particularly in their formative years, makes them highly vulnerable to burnout.

We have all heard the airplane safety announcement remind us to “Please put on your own oxygen mask first before assisting others.” Unfortunately, like many airline passengers (very few of whom use oxygen masks correctly when they are needed), physicians often do not recognize symptoms of burnout or depression, and even less often do they seek help.

Burnout is directly linked to an impressive list of undesirable consequences:

- Lower patient satisfaction and care quality
- Higher medical error rates and malpractice risk
- Higher physician and staff turnover
- Physician alcohol and drug abuse and addiction
- Physician suicide

In the below podcast by Sound Practice you will hear from Humayun “Hank” Chaudhry, DO, MS, MACP, FRCP, MACOI, President and CEO of the Federation of State Medical Boards.

[Physician Burnout and the Federation of State Medical Boards \(soundpracticepodcast.com\)](https://soundpracticepodcast.com)

Tragically, physicians have one of the highest suicide rates of any profession. As many as half of physicians know a physician who has either considered, attempted, or died by suicide in their career. The Chief Medical Officer of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention discusses her groundbreaking Journal of Medical Regulation article, “Physician Mental Health: An Evidence-Based Approach to Change.”

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/627913/3957509-interview-with-christine-moutier-md-on-physician-health>

Reducing physician burnout is critical to achieving the goals of redesigning the health care system and improving the health of patients, families, and communities in the United States. If you are a healthcare worker experiencing COVID-19 related stress or burnout, please call the national Physician Support Line at 1-888-409-0141.

Reference- [Physician burnout \(thelancet.com\)](https://www.thelancet.com)

# IDFPR RETURNS TO THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

Medical Coordinator Dr. Shami Goyal was among the many IDFPR volunteers who participated in staffing the agency’s table at this year’s Illinois State Fair! IDFPR’s table was in the Lt. Governor’s tent, which highlighted the many brochures about the Department and the four Divisions. Booklets on a variety of consumer topics (ranging from staying safe from scams to improving one’s credit score) from the Federal Trade Commission were also available for visitors.



# INTRODUCING THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF STATEWIDE ENFORCEMENT



We want to introduce you to the Division of Professional Regulation's Deputy Director of Statewide Enforcement, Samara Cotter! Samara has served in this role since July 2021, leading a team of more than 70 people, including prosecutors, investigators, and administrative professionals. Samara previously served as the Enforcement Assistant Deputy Director for the Cannabis Control Section and as an Enforcement Attorney in Health-Related Prosecutions for IDFPR, after being an Assistant State's Attorney in the Cook County State's Attorney Office for more than a decade.

Samara earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminology Cum Laude from The Ohio State University (Go Bucks!), followed by a Juris Doctorate with a Certificate in Advocacy from Loyola University Chicago. Samara is also a Certified Investigator through the Council of Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation.

## IDFPR PRESENTS AT IHHA MEETING

Medical Coordinator Dr. Shami Goyal and Chief of Medical Prosecutions Brandon Thom spoke at the 38th Annual Illinois Health and Hospital Association meeting in Bloomington on September 15! They provided an overview of the licensing of medical professionals in Illinois, along with the enforcement process. The Association advocates for Illinois' more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve patients and communities throughout the state.

Learn more about the Division of Professional Regulation's Licensing and Testing Unit [here](#).

Learn how the Division responds to a request for an investigation of a physician [here](#).



## CONTACT US

### Licensing and Testing

320 West Washington Street  
3rd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62786

### General Assistance:

1-888-473-4858

### Enforcement, Complaints, and Investigations

555 West Monroe Street  
Suite 500  
Chicago, Illinois 60661

### Complaint Intake Unit:

312-814-6910

### General Assistance:

1-888-473-4858

### Professional Licensing:

1-800-560-6420

### TTY Line:

866-325-4949

<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/dpr.html>



State of Illinois

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation