Steven W. Schierholt, Esq.
Executive Director

John R. Kasich
Governor

STATE OF OHIO
BOARD OF PHARMACY

For Immediate Release
Grant Miller, PIO 614-705-1190
Media.Relations@pharmacy.ohio.gov

Ohio Prescription Monitoring Program Connects with Pennsylvania
All Five States Bordering Ohio Now Connected With OARRS

Ohio prescribers and pharmacists can now request patient prescription information from Pennsylvania through Ohio's prescription monitoring program, known as the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). The ability of OARRS to connect with Pennsylvania's Prescription Monitoring Program (PA PDMP) means that Ohio healthcare providers can now access patient information on controlled substances that were filled in Pennsylvania without having to use two separate systems. This new feature will further enhance the ability of providers to prevent the misuse and diversion of controlled substances, including opioid pain medications.

"Expanding OARRS to include data from Pennsylvania strengthens this vital healthcare resource," said State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy Executive Director Steven W. Schierholt. "This important development gives Ohio healthcare professionals the most holistic view of a patient's controlled substance history."

Developed in 2006, OARRS collects information on all prescriptions for controlled substances and one non-controlled drug (gabapentin) that are dispensed in Ohio. This information is then available to prescribers when they treat patients and pharmacists when presented with prescriptions from patients. This Monday (June 26th) OARRS achieved a new patient request record with prescribers and pharmacists requesting more than 365,000 patient reports in a single day.

Sharing information with Pennsylvania means OARRS users can now access controlled substance prescription information from prescription monitoring programs in each of Ohio's border states. In addition, OARRS users can access patient data from Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota and Virginia.

For more information on OARRS, including how to register for the system, please visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov.