

Authorized Uses of OARRS Under Ohio Law

Updated 7/9/2025

Who can access OARRS and for what purpose is established under Ohio law (ORC [4729.80](#)).

The following are authorized to access the system:

User	Authorized Use
Prescribers	To treat current or prospective patients. This includes in-state and out-of-state prescribers. To provide medical treatment for a newborn or infant patient diagnosed as opioid dependent, a prescriber may also access OARRS for that patient's mother.
Pharmacists	To treat current or prospective patients. This includes in-state and out-of-state pharmacists.
Ohio Board of Pharmacy	Ohio law requires the Board to review the database for violation of laws and rules (ORC 4729.81).
Ohio Healthcare Regulatory Boards	For active administrative investigations.
Law Enforcement	For active investigations of a drug abuse offense as defined in ORC 2925.01 .
Ohio Department of Medicaid	To review an active Medicaid patient.
Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC)	To review an active BWC patient.
Medicaid Managed Care Organizations	To review an active Medicaid patient.
BWC Managed Care Organizations	To review an active BWC patient.
Ohio Department of Health	For public health surveillance as part of the Ohio Violent Death Reporting System.
Local Health Departments	For use as part of a local Overdose or Suicide Fatality Review Committee . ⁱ

Ohio Drug Courts	For current and prospective program participants (to monitor treatment compliance).
Coroners and Medical Examiners	For a deceased person about whom the coroner is conducting or has conducted an autopsy or investigation.
Hospital Peer Review Committees	To assist with a prescriber who is subject to the committee's evaluation, supervision, or discipline.
Ohio Department of Commerce	For active investigations involving the Ohio Division of Marijuana Control.
Marijuana Dispensary Employees	Prior to the sale of medical marijuana.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- Unauthorized use of OARRS is a criminal violation (see ORC [4729.86](#)).
- All OARRS users must attest to a written agreement under which the information is to be used and disseminated according to Ohio law.
- Not all information in OARRS is available to all users. For example, only medical marijuana dispensing information is available to the Ohio Department of Commerce and marijuana dispensary employees.

ⁱ Ohio law (ORC 4729.80) permits any of the following who have been invited to serve on a fatality review committee to access a patient's OARRS report:

- A prescriber or prescriber's delegate;
- A pharmacist or pharmacist's delegate;
- A coroner, deputy coroner, or coroner's delegate; or
- Effective 8/1/2025: An employee of the Ohio Board of Pharmacy who has been appointed to a fatality review committee.

For more information visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/oarrsfatalityreview