

The Office of Governor M. Jodi Rell



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

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Contact:
860-
524-
7313

Governor Rell Announces Launch Of New Prescription Monitoring System

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced the launch of a new Internet-based prescription monitoring system to prevent the abuse of controlled substance prescription drugs.

The Governor said the new system, used by the Department of Consumer Protection's Prescription Monitoring Program, allows doctors and pharmacists to electronically share valuable patient information in a matter of minutes.

"As we are reminded, sadly and much too often, abusing drugs – whether they are street drugs or prescription – destroys lives, careers and families. It takes a costly toll on society," Governor Rell said. "This monitoring system can flag abuse more quickly and help doctors and pharmacists provide better care to their patients."

In 2005, more than 6 million Americans reported non-medical use of prescription drugs, according to the National Survey on Drug Use. Nearly half of all emergency room visits from prescription drug abuse were patients between 12 and 20 years old.

The Governor said the new system replaces a fax and mail process with secure Internet-based technology. It enhances the ability of the monitoring program's staff to manage the program and help them track those cases where they have intervened to prevent drug abuse and diversion.

"Connecticut is one of 29 states to adopt this new technology, which has proven to be very effective," Governor Rell said.

The system was funded with federal grants from the U.S. Department of Justice.

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