



Bamboo Health

Gateway Integration Welcome Packet

Alabama (AL) Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

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What is the AL PDMP?

PDMP is a program developed to promote the public health and welfare by detecting diversion, abuse, and misuse of prescription medications classified as controlled substances under the AL Uniform Controlled Substances Act. Under the Code of Alabama, 1975, § 20-2-210, et seq., the AL Department of Public Health (ADPH) was authorized to establish, create, and maintain a controlled substances prescription database program. This law requires anyone who dispenses Class II, III, IV, V controlled substances to report daily the dispensing of these drugs to the database.

Please visit the [AL PDMP website](#) for more information.

What is Electronic Health Record (EHR) Integration?

The ADPH is partnering with Bamboo Health, the service provider of AL PDMP, to provide options to all Healthcare Entities (HCE) in AL to integrate AL PDMP data into their clinical workflow utilizing a service called PMP Gateway. PMP Gateway is a web service that performs automated, multi-state, queries to integrate patient controlled substance prescription history within EHR systems. PMP Gateway facilitates communication, information transfer, integration, and support for the state approval process and the EHR vendor development process.

Integrating AL PDMP data within an EHR provides a streamlined clinical workflow for providers. The integration eliminates the need for providers to leave their workflow to access the AL PDMP web portal to request a patient's controlled substance prescription history. Instead, the EHR or Pharmacy Management System automatically initiates a patient query using PMP Gateway and returns the patient's prescription history directly within the provider's EHR or Pharmacy Management System.

What is the Integration Request process?

1. Navigate your web browser to the Customer Connect portal: <https://connect.bamboohealth.com/>
2. Click "Create an Account".
3. Follow the prompts to input the necessary information for your healthcare organization's integration request.
4. Once all steps are complete on Customer Connect, your request is forwarded to the AL PDMP Administrators for review.
5. If approved, a confirmation email is sent to you, and the credentials to activate the integration are sent according to the EHR vendor's onboarding instructions.
 - a. The credentials could be sent to you or your EHR vendor depending on the vendor's instructions.
6. To complete integration setup, please contact your EHR vendor.

What is the Implementation process?

Several EHR vendors have already completed the PMP Gateway integration development work to deliver controlled substance prescription data within their products/service offerings. If your vendor has not yet completed integration, Bamboo Health will work with you and your vendor to initiate that process.

If your EHR vendor has completed integration:

- a. Bamboo Health will create production PMP Gateway credentials for your Healthcare Entity.
 - i. This process should take 4-5 business days
- b. Once created, ADPH will need to approve the request for credentials.
 - i. The contact provided on your Integration Request Form will receive an automated email once ADPH has approved the request for credentials.
- c. Credentials will then be sent to your EHR vendor (or directly to you, depending upon your vendor) to start the process.
 - i. Bamboo Health recommends you contact your EHR vendor to let them know you have submitted a request to be integrated under the AL PDMP EHR Integration project.
- d. Your EHR vendor will reach out to you to start the testing process.
- e. Once complete, you will work with your EHR vendor to determine the final roll-out schedule.

***Please note:** If you are using Epic as your EHR vendor, the implementation process will vary from what is outlined above. The implementation process is more involved at the HCE level and Bamboo Health will contact the HCE directly to coordinate the implementation for Epic sites.

If your EHR vendor has **not** completed the necessary integration development:

- a. An Bamboo representative will reach out to the point of contact listed on your Integration Request Form and schedule a meeting with:
 - i. Bamboo Health Sales Engineer
 - ii. Bamboo Health Technical Resource
 - iii. HCE Point of Contact
 - iv. EHR Vendor Contact
- b. Bamboo Health will provide the EHR vendor with the technical Application Programming Interface (API) documentation.
 - ❖ **Please note:** *Depending upon the engagement level of the vendor or existing project backlog, this process can take up to several months.*
- c. Bamboo Health will provide testing instructions and test patients to the EHR vendor and will provide technical support as needed.
- d. You will work with your EHR vendor to ensure all provider roles are mapped correctly to the appropriate PMP Gateway role.
- e. Before deploying to production, Bamboo Health requests that the EHR vendor demo the PMP Gateway integration so that they may provide any additional recommendations or changes. This demo may also include representatives from ADPH.
- f. Once the integration has been approved by Bamboo Health, your EHR vendor will set a production deployment date and you will work with your EHR vendor on the roll-out.

Benefits of Integration

It is important to note that there are key functional differences between a patient query in the AL PDMP web portal and via EHR integration. AL PDMP integration is focused on delivering a streamlined workflow for providers to access a patient report.

EHR integration removes the need for a provider to:

1. Exit the EHR and log in to the AL PDMP web portal
2. Enter username & password
3. Navigate to the patient search screen
4. Enter a patient's demographics
5. Determine the date range to search
6. Select which states to query
7. Click 'search'

Instead, behind the scenes the integration collects the above detail to perform an **automated** query to deliver a patient report. This allows the provider to have access to the prescription data within seconds of accessing the patient's record within the EHR without unnecessary data entry or excessive clicks.

* **Please note:** This initiative requires that all providers maintain an active account with the AL PDMP web portal to ensure continued access to additional administrative type functionality such as patient alerts, user profile management, search history, etc.

Who will have access?

The following is a list of provider roles that may have access to AL PDMP data via EHR integration.

- Physician
- Pharmacist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Optometrist with prescriptive authority
- Physician Assistant with prescriptive authority
- Medical Resident with prescriptive authority
- Dentist

Delegates, both unlicensed and licensed, are not able to access AL PDMP data via EHR integration. Instead, delegates will continue to access AL PDMP via the web portal.

Provider authorization

The ADPH requires that every patient query submitted to the PMP Gateway contain the requesting provider's first and last name, professional license number, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) number (if applicable) and National Provider Identifier (NPI) number (if applicable). If the provider is not registered with the PDMP, they will not be allowed to retrieve any patient reports.

Post go-live technical support

If providers are experiencing an issue when attempting to access AL PDMP data via EHR integration, please first contact your internal IT helpdesk for assistance.

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- ❖ **Please note:** Bamboo Health does not control any aspect of the EHR or Pharmacy ManagementSystem. Any issues related to your EHR vendor's application should be directed to your EHR vendor contact.

If it is determined that the PDMP Gateway service is non-operational, [please submit a support request](#) to Bamboo Health. This will create a service ticket with the Bamboo Health helpdesk to troubleshoot the issue. Please allow up to 24 hours for Bamboo Health to acknowledge your issue.

In the event that there is a disruption in the PMP Gateway integration service, providers should log in to the AL PDMP web portal to request patient reports.

Relevant Hyperlinks

- [AL PDMP web portal](#)
- <https://bamboohealth.com/>