



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ★ DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
DIVERSION CONTROL DIVISION

Diversion News: October 2024

DEA Warns Drug Companies of Cyber Attacks that Could Lead to Data Breaches



The Drug Enforcement Administration has seen several cyber attacks on healthcare and drug companies that resulted in data breaches.

To avoid becoming the next victim, there are measures companies can take.

DEA recommends that registrants implement safe cybersecurity best practices.

This includes using strong and unique passwords/passphrases, keeping software up-to-date, thinking before clicking suspicious links or opening unexpected attachments, turning on multi-factor authentication (MFA), and safeguarding accounts from unauthorized access.

DEA registrants should also regularly review their prescribing activity through their state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and flag any discrepancies with the respective state authority immediately.

If you experience or witness a potential cyber incident with a DEA system or data, report it to DEACORE@DEA.gov.

More information is available at <https://www.deaiversion.usdoj.gov/cyber-security.html>

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Announced

DEA will hold its 26th Take Back Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, at locations nationwide.

The community can drop off unused and unwanted medications and prevent drug misuse before it starts.



More information is available at <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>.

For those that cannot make the in-person event, year-round drop-boxes are available. For more information on the locations of pharmacies and medical facilities with disposal locations, visit <https://www.dea.gov/everyday-takeback-day>.

DEA Hosts 2024 Chemical Working Group Conference



For the fourth year, DEA brought together close to 150 federal and international law enforcement, military, and intelligence community partners at its 2024 Chemical Working Group Conference. Attendees also included members of the Five Eyes and representatives of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime.

The conference focused on current and future trends in the diversion of precursor chemicals and manufacturing equipment used to make illegal drugs.

DEA experts and industry leaders briefed attendees on the political and legal landscapes around the globe and discussed influences on the flow of controlled and non-controlled chemicals as well as the machinery used to produce illicit tablets and capsules.

Safety Alert Video Aims to Keep Pharmacies Safe, Educate Communities

DEA has seen a surge in burglaries at independent, non-chain pharmacies. Nearly 900 burglaries involving the theft of controlled substances were reported to DEA in 2023.

Criminals steal controlled substances and sell them on the streets, impacting both patient care and public safety.

A new [safety alert video](#) shows pharmacies how they can avoid becoming the next victim and educates the public on this crime.



Additional resources, including crime data, and comprehensive materials for pharmacists is available [here](#).

Diversion Control Division Enforcement

DEA's Diversion Control Division strives to prevent, detect, and investigate the diversion of controlled pharmaceuticals and listed chemicals from legitimate sources. When the safety and health of the American people is in jeopardy, DEA takes action against those who violate the law.



Seven Charged after Federal Investigation Disrupts Massive Counterfeit Pill Manufacturing Operation

Sept. 24, 2024

Hollidaysburg Couple Sentenced For Conspiracy To Defraud The United States And Health Care Fraud Conspiracy

Sept. 20, 2024

Civil Settlement Resolves Allegations of Record-keeping Violations Against Savannah-area Weight Loss Physician

Sept. 11, 2024

Boston Physician Resolves Allegations of Improper Prescribing Practices Involving Controlled Substances

Sept. 11, 2024

Pharmacy Burglary Conspirators Arraigned Today in Federal Court

Aug. 29, 2024

Members of a Houston-Based Organization Responsible for Breaking into Pharmacies in Rural Iowa and Nebraska Indicted

Aug. 29, 2024



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