



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

PREPAREDNESS

NPDB Mandatory Reporting

Based on the implementation of Section 1921 of the Social Security Act, effective March 1, 2010, the Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (Bureau), must, as a state licensing authority, report all certificate holder adverse actions, not just those based on professional competence and conduct, to the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB) within 30 days of when the action was taken.

The Data Bank is a federally mandated program that protects the public, improves the quality of health care and combats fraud and abuse in health care delivery by collecting specific information. Reporting to the Data Bank is an important element in the comprehensive and continuous review of practitioners' professional credentials.

Reporting certain adverse information is required by [law](#), fosters quality in health care, and assists the health care community in making sound employment, credentialing, and licensing decisions. Report information received by organizations is used in conjunction with a comprehensive review of professional credentials.

[Section 1921](#) of the Social Security Act, authorizes the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) to expand the information it collects. With this legislation, disciplinary records of allied health care professionals are now accessible to private sector hospitals, nursing homes, and other organizations so that they may be used when making employment, affiliation, certification, or licensure decisions.

Section 1921 adds State licensure actions against all types of health care professionals, not just physicians and dentists, to the NPDB. In addition, Section 1921 collects any negative action or finding by State licensing agencies, peer review organizations and private accreditation organizations against all health care practitioners and organizations. To learn more about the [National Practitioners Data Bank](#), click on the link to be redirected to that site.

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