



Physicians Health Program Statistics

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Every year the Tennessee Medical Foundation reports the status of the Physicians Health Program (PHP) to the TMA House of Delegates. Our report includes statistical information on PHP participants, details of our progress in attracting financial support for the PHP, a clinical staff update and an accounting of how successful we have been with physicians across the state. We provide this report to the House of Delegates for two purposes; 1) part of the dues of every TMA member provides financial support for the TMF, and, 2) we believe it is important for every TMA member to have an up-to-date accounting of the status of their peers across the state. To fulfill the second purpose and reach all TMA members, our statistics and commentary are offered below.

Tennessee Medical Foundation Physicians Health Program Activity Report for Years 2002 and 2003 YTD

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003 (as of 8/15/03)</u>
Total Identifications:	145	85
Chemical Dependency:	83	45
Behavioral:	41	29
Sexual Boundary Violation:	9	9
Over-prescribing:	7	2
Malpractice Stress:	2	
Other:	3	
Total Assessments/Aftercare	163	105
In-Patient Treatment:	71	65
Contracts:	39	35
Estimated Total Physicians under Aftercare Contracts:	292	

Physicians in need of help are normally identified through a confidential report to the PHP by a family member, practice partner or office staff, hospital, or the Board of Medical Examiners. After positive verification of a reported problem, I meet with the physician to offer PHP help in getting an assessment of the physician's health at an independent facility. If the assessment indicates in-patient treatment is appropriate, and

the physician seeks such treatment at their own expense, the PHP assumes an advocacy role for the physician during the course of and upon completion of successful treatment. Aftercare for chemical dependency is a five year process and is guided by an individualized contract between the physician and the PHP.

Our statistics for 2003 through August 15th, indicate that identifications and assessments have held fairly steady as compared to 2002. However, assessments are yielding a 20% increase in the rate of physicians entering in-patient treatment in 2003, and more aftercare contracts have been signed. Higher rates of treatment and contract execution tell me that more physicians are benefiting from the life-changing process the PHP provides. And that, in the final analysis, is the best measurement of our success.

Physicians can easily access the TMF Physicians Health Program by calling (615) 467-6411 or writing the TMF, 216 Centerview Drive, Suite 304, Nashville, TN, 37027. All communications to the program are strictly confidential.

To make a tax deductible contribution to the Physician's Health Program, contact TMF Administrator Michael Todd at (615) 467-6411, or write to the Tennessee Medical Foundation, 216 Centerview Drive, Suite 304, Brentwood, TN 37027.