



painmodel
RULES & TOOLS FOR CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT



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To: Office of the West Virginia Attorney General, Patrick Morrisey
From: Family Medicine Foundation of West Virginia
Date: August 1, 2016
Re: Suggested Best Practices for Prescribing/Dispensing Opioids in West Virginia

Attorney General Morrisey:

Thank you for sharing your suggested best practices for prescribing/dispensing opioids with the Family Medicine Foundation of West Virginia (FMFWV). Your dedication to halting and improving epidemic levels of prescription drug abuse in West Virginia is much needed. Our board and clinical consultants have reviewed your best practices and strongly support your efforts.

We would be proud to offer our resources, especially data, information, and other best practices gathered and developed during our PainModel.com effort, which was launched several years ago, offering “rules & tools for chronic pain management” and promotion responsible prescribing/dispensing. PainModel.com was made possible by a grant awarded to the FMFWV by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation. In addition, the FMFWV’s annual 3-hour “Drug Diversion Training and Best Practice Prescribing of Controlled Substances” workshop has become a staple among continuing education course seekers in West Virginia and the surrounding region. We are looking forward to another large crowd and successful event on November 10, 2016.

As you know, West Virginia had the highest overdose death rate in the United States in recent years, with 35.5 deaths per 100,000 people, more than double the national average of 14.7 deaths per 100,000 people. The FMFWV sincerely hopes that your continued efforts will reduce the misuse of prescription opioids, while preserving legitimate patient access to necessary medical treatment.

The FMFWV is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation that hosts West Virginia's largest medical conference each November. The FMFWV hosts around 575 health care provider attendees of various types (MD/DO physicians, APRNs, PAs, RNs, RPHs, pharmDs, PTs, PTSs, ATCs, PhDs, and others) each year, and also awards scholarships to physicians who pledge to work in rural, underserved West Virginia after residency. We have proudly supported Family Medicine in West Virginia since 1982.

Thank you for your dedication to West Virginia’s patients and providers alike.

William B. Ferrell, Jr. – Secretary/Treasurer
Family Medicine Foundation of West Virginia