



August 5, 2016

Patrick Morrissey
West Virginia Attorney General
State Capitol Complex
Building 1, Room 26E
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Attorney General Morrissey:

Too many opioids are prescribed in our state. Sadly, this leads to abuse and a staggering amount of overdoses.

For this reason, the Executive Committee of the West Virginia Occupational Therapy Association is pleased to support the best practices released by your office. We encourage healthcare providers to adopt these guidelines in their facilities. We believe West Virginia's opioid problem will be vastly reduced as these best practices are implemented across the state.

We feel strongly that occupational therapy can play a vital role in this effort to reduce the use or prescription opioids. Occupational therapists have been leaders in providing pain management through non medicated means. These include offering coping strategies and improving social and emotional health. We also emphasize providing encouragement and empowerment to help ensure patients succeed in purposeful and functional living.

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