



Wyoming Center on Aging

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Dear Wyoming Provider,

Opioid pain medication is one of many treatment options for severe pain in older adults, yet some caution and exploration of alternatives should be evaluated before starting patients on this kind of analgesic.

The Rx Abuse Stakeholders (RAS) developed the “Wyoming Rx Abuse Stakeholders: Chronic Pain Management Toolkit” to assist prescribers in treating their chronic pain patients in a safe, responsible, and effective manner. The Wyoming Center on Aging has collaborated with RAS to update the toolkit to include a section on older adults and to create handouts for providers, older adults, and patients. It is our hope that the updated toolkit in part or in full will provide useful information to prescribers in treating their older non-cancer, chronic pain patients and support your work with caregivers.

NOTICE: BOARD OF MEDICINE URGES USE OF CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT. *The Wyoming Board of Medicine has adopted the Chronic Pain Management Toolkit, developed by the Wyoming Rx Abuse Stakeholders group. The Board urges physicians and physician assistants treating chronic pain in their practices to make active use of the Toolkit. It contains guidelines, forms, and checklists to assist in effectively treating patients’ chronic pain while ensuring the safe use of opioids and other controlled substances.*

A copy of the toolkit and the following resources are enclosed:

- Wyoming Rx Abuse Stakeholders: Chronic Pain Management Toolkit
- Most Commonly Used Opioid Table
- Handouts:
 - Opioid Use In Older Adults: A Guide for Patients (7 copies)
 - Opioid Use In Older Adults: A Guide for Caregivers (7 copies)
 - Opioid Use In Older Adults: A Guide for Providers (1 copies)

While the Rx Abuse Stakeholders (RAS) hope that the information provided in this toolkit will assist Wyoming medical providers in the treatment of their chronic pain patients, it is not meant to be regulatory in nature. The presentation of this toolkit is purely to provide a resource to healthcare professionals on pain management. Your comments on how the toolkit can be improved to meet the needs of Wyoming practitioners and their patients are welcomed. Please direct all comments to the Rx Abuse Stakeholders at: wyrxabusstakesholders@gmail.com.

