



Jurisprudence Section – 2005

E7 Remedial Disciplinary Education in Prescribing Controlled Substances

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After attending this presentation, attendees will understand how healthcare providers with a permit from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and some state licensing agencies have been allowed, in certain cases, to study and learn appropriate controlled substances prescribing in order to remove sanctions against their licenses to practice.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by educating the doctor in pain management, problems of over-prescribing as well as under-prescribing, reducing medical errors, dealing with the balance between treating pain and falling prey to the abuser. The state licensing agency can mandate this educational endeavor and have the healthcare provider enroll in the course immediately and can reduce the lengthy and costly litigation and prolonged time of license probation, suspension or revocation. It is utilized by hospital and HMO administrators, malpractice insurance companies, and attorneys. The material can be updated on the DVD quickly and easily as new drugs and drug combinations are marketed, used and abused.

The 22-year-old course utilized by most state healthcare licensing agencies has been reformatted into the modern technology of DVD discs. The "students" view the expert lecturer in the privacy, safety and comfort of their home/office without the expenses and loss of income incurred in traveling to the five and a half day course in New Jersey at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), administrator of the national Mini-Residency in Appropriate Prescribing (MRAP).

The 25 hour course encompasses performing adequate history and physical examinations, supervision of physician assistants and nurse practitioners, pharmacology, assessing pain and anxiety disorders, development of a treatment plan, proper medical record-keeping, biomedical ethics, detecting the drug abuser, treating the former or present drug abuser presently in pain, federal and state laws and board regulations, informed consents, treatment contracts to control and manage the flow of opioids and sedative/hypnotics, utilizing consultants, pain managers, addictionologists, physiotherapists, radiological studies, laboratory tests, urine and serum drug screening, addiction and scams of the drug-seekers.

The course is not only for those practitioners who have been sanctioned by their licensing agencies but also serves as a basic course for physicians assistants and nurse practitioners who seek education in order to obtain state approval for prescribing controlled substances.

The DEA is looking to the medical, dental, podiatric, pharmaceutical, and nursing professions to recognize that these professionals are not receiving adequate education in their core curricula and to aid in insuring that accurate education with documentation is provided in order to apply or re-apply for their DEA permit.

A professionally monitored examination to assure competency is provided in most cities of every state and Canada. The examination is electronically scored with a report sent to all registrants, their attorneys and licensing agencies, hospital credentialing committee or malpractice insurance company.

The complete manual contains 12 DVD discs, Microsoft® PowerPoint slide printouts of each expert representing 25 hours of study plus forms by which the provider can educate his/her patient and regulations in prescribing controlled substances as outlined in Federation of State Medical Boards of the U.S.'s, "Model Policy in the Prescribing Controlled Substances for Pain Management."

The MRAP will benefit the patient by educating the doctor in pain management, problems of over-prescribing as well as under-prescribing, reducing medical errors, dealing with the balance between treating pain and falling prey to the abuser. The state licensing agency can mandate this educational endeavor and have the healthcare provider enroll in the course immediately and can reduce the lengthy and costly litigation and prolonged time of license probation, suspension or revocation. It is utilized by hospital and HMO administrators, malpractice insurance companies and attorneys. The material can be updated on the DVD quickly and easily as new drugs and drug combinations are marketed, used and abused.

Sanctions, DVDs, MRAP