

# Opioid Prescribing Documentation Checklist

For **Osteopathic Physicians** and **Physician Assistants** in Washington State



## Subacute Pain

### PRIOR TO WRITING AN OPIOID PRESCRIPTION

#### **Document:**

- Appropriate history and physical examination, including:**
  - a) Nature and intensity of the pain
  - b) Screening for potential high-risk behaviors and adverse events
  - c) Other medications the patient is taking including: date, type, dosage, and quantity prescribed
- Queries of the Washington state Prescription Monitoring Program**
- Screening or referral for consultation for psychosocial factors which may be impairing recovery**
- Biological specimen test**
- Secure storage and disposal of opioids, as well as patient notification of the following:**
  - a) Risks associated with the use of opioids, including risk of dependence and overdose
  - b) Pain management alternatives
  - c) Safe and secure storage of opioid prescriptions
  - d) Proper disposal of unused opioid medications
  - e) Right to refuse an opioid prescription or order

### TREATMENT PLAN

#### **Must document:**

- Acknowledgment of progression from acute phase (< 6 weeks) to subacute phase (6-12 weeks)**
- Presence of one or more diagnoses or indications for the use of opioid pain medication**
- Significant objective improvement in function or pain control with use of opioid pain medication**
- Plan for continued use, tapering schedule, or discontinuation if improvement is limited**
- Pain treatment plan with multimodal pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapies considered or tried**
- Results of any aberrant biological specimen testing and a risk-benefit analysis if opioids will be continued**
- Results of consultation for psychosocial factors that may be impairing recovery**
- Risk-benefit analysis if opioids prescribed in combination with other schedule II-IV medications**
- Clinical justification for opioid prescription of more than 14-day supply**
- Changes in any of the following during follow-up visits:**
  - a) Change in pain relief
  - b) Change in physical function
  - c) Change in psychosocial function
- Transition from subacute pain to chronic pain, if opioids are prescribed for > 6-12 week**