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***Board Seeks Comments Regarding Proposed Acute Pain Rules***

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The Medical Board is accepting comments on proposed amendments to two existing rules and a proposed new rule that will limit initial opioid analgesic prescriptions for acute pain to 5 days for minors and 7 days for adults. The rules also include a 30MED average daily dose limit.

- (1) [Rule 4731-11-01](#) Definitions  
Amended by adding definitions for acute pain, morphine equivalent dose, minor, extended-release or long-acting opioid analgesic, opioid analgesic, palliative care and terminal condition.
- (2) [Rule 4731-11-02](#) General Provisions  
Amended by adding a requirement that physicians and physician assistants must follow Rules 4729-5-30 and 4729-5-13, Ohio Administrative Code. This will include the requirement that prescriptions for controlled substances will need to include the diagnosis.
- (3) [New Rule 4731-11-13](#) Prescribing of opioid analgesics for acute pain
  - Limits prescriptions for opioid analgesics to treat acute pain to no more than a seven-day supply for adults and a five-day supply for minors. If the physician determines that the pain is expected to persist for longer than seven days, the physician may prescribe for a longer period, but the reason for exceeding the limits and for prescribing an opioid analgesic must be documented in the patient's medical record.
  - Requires that the patient and the parent or guardian of a minor patient is advised of the benefits and risks of the opioid analgesic, including the potential for addiction.
  - Clarifies that the rule does not apply to the treatment of patients receiving hospice or palliative care, cancer and terminal illness, or medication assisted treatment for addiction.

Send comments to [Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov](mailto:Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov) by Friday, April 28, 2017.

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***OARRS Site Registration Downtime April 20-25, 2017***

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR OARRS ACCOUNT**

The Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) is upgrading to the PMP AWAxRxE software platform on **Tuesday, April 25, 2017**.

**On April 20, 2017**, the OARRS registration function will be disabled to allow for the upgrade to the new system. Anyone wishing to register for an OARRS account should register prior to April 20, 2017.

For additional information about the upcoming transition, including information regarding the transfer of your OARRS account, please visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OARRSupdate](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OARRSupdate)



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***IMPORTANT – License Renewal Information***

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The State Medical Board of Ohio will be changing online licensure websites in June 2017. **All systems are anticipated to be unavailable from June 2 – June 19 so you will not be able to renew your license during the outage.**

- Physicians and Training Certificate holders with an approaching renewal deadline: You are strongly encouraged to renew your license BEFORE June 2. Log on to <https://license.ohio.gov> to get started. Chrome will not work properly with the physician online renewal website. Use a compatible browser such as Internet Explorer or Safari.
- All other license holders with a July 1, 2017 renewal deadline: Consider renewing before June 2 to avoid system outages. Click here to renew: <https://elicense.ohio.gov>. Chrome is the preferred browser for the elicense system.

Renewing early does not change future license expiration dates.

Paper licensure applications for MD, DO, DPM and training certificates will not be accepted after June 19.

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***Proposed Creation of Confidential Monitoring Program  
Comments Due May 1, 2017***

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The State Medical Board of Ohio (“Medical Board”) invites interested parties to comment on proposed rules that will create a non-disciplinary, confidential monitoring program that allows licensees with mental or physical illnesses, other than substance use disorders, to be monitored by the Medical Board without being subjected to formal public disciplinary action. The program will be entirely within the Medical Board’s investigative process and overseen by the Secretary and Supervising Member of the Medical Board.

If the proposed confidential monitoring program is created, there will be three possible results should the Medical Board receive a complaint alleging that an applicant or licensee is unable to safely practice due to mental or physical illness, excluding substance use disorders. The three possibilities are: (1) the complaint is closed after review, with no public disclosure; (2) the individual is entered into the confidential monitoring program, with no public disclosure; or (3) formal disciplinary action against the individual is proposed, with the action being publicly disclosed. The proposed rules are as follows:

[4731-28-02](#) Eligibility for confidential monitoring program

[4731-28-03](#) Participation in the confidential monitoring program

[4731-28-04](#) Disqualification from continued participation in the confidential monitoring program

[4731-28-05](#) Termination of the participation agreement for the confidential monitoring program

Send comments to [Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov](mailto:Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov) by Monday, May 1, 2017.