



## ***“RED FLAG” SIGNS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE***

A physician will obtain and review an OARRS report when any of the following red flags pertain to a patient:

- a) Selling prescription drugs;
- b) Forging or altering a prescription;
- c) Stealing or borrowing reported drugs;
- d) Increasing the dosage of reported drugs in amounts that exceed the prescribed amount;
- e) Suffering an overdose, intentional or unintentional;
- f) Having a drug screen result that is inconsistent with the treatment plan or refusing to participate in a drug screen;
- g) Having been arrested, convicted, or received diversion or intervention in lieu of conviction for a drug related offense while under the physician's care;
- h) Receiving reported drugs from multiple prescribers, without clinical basis;
- i) Traveling with a group of other patients to the physician's office where all or most of the patients request controlled substance prescriptions;
- j) Traveling an extended distance or from out of state to the physician's office;
- k) Having a family member, friend, law enforcement officer, or health care professional express concern related to the patient's use of illegal or reported drugs;
- l) A known history of chemical abuse or dependency;
- m) Appearing impaired or overly sedated during an office visit or exam;
- n) Requesting reported drugs by street name, color, or identifying marks;
- o) Frequently requesting early refills of reported drugs;
- p) Frequently losing prescriptions for reported drugs;
- q) A history of illegal drug use;
- r) Sharing reported drugs with another person; or
- s) Recurring visits to non-coordinated sites of care, such as emergency departments, urgent care facilities, or walk-in clinics to obtain reported drugs.

For additional information see Ohio Administrative Code 4731-11-11