

How do Pennsylvania Opioid Prescribing Guidelines and Opioid Laws Impact Patient Care?



Act 191 of 2014 requires the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to collect information on all filled prescriptions for controlled substances. It is a tool designed to help healthcare providers safely prescribe controlled substances such as opioids.



There are opioid prescribing guidelines for 14 medical specialties on the safe and effective use of opioids for pain management. The guidelines help healthcare providers improve patient outcomes and provide good patient care. The guidelines are not rules or laws.



Act 112 of 2019 requires a healthcare provider to provide education and have treatment agreements with patients when treating chronic pain with a controlled substance that contains an opioid. It also requires Urine Drug Screening in some situations.



Act 96 of 2018 requires a healthcare provider to electronically prescribe controlled substance medications. Electronic prescribing is a technology that lets the provider send a prescription directly to the pharmacy the patient likes to use.

Questions or concerns?

For more information, visit: bit.ly/patientadvocacyPA
Or contact the Patient Advocacy Program:
Email ra-dh-advocacy@pa.gov Phone 844-377-7367

Additional Information

Prescribing Guidelines: bit.ly/prescribeguidePA
Treatment agreements: bit.ly/Pennact112
Electronic prescribing: bit.ly/PennEPCS