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**E-NEWS UPDATE  
FEBRUARY 2016 EDITION**

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**Ohio's New Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Acute Pain Expand Fight Against Prescription Drug Abuse**

The Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team recently released new acute pain opioid prescribing guidelines to keep patients safe. These new guidelines urge prescribers to first consider non-opioid therapies and pain medications for the management of acute pain when appropriate to avoid the potential misuse and abuse of opioids. When opioid medications are necessary to manage a patient's acute pain, the guidelines recommend that the clinician prescribe the minimum quantity necessary without automatic refills.

The guidelines have been endorsed by a number of organizations including the Board of Pharmacy. To learn more about them and what Ohio is doing to fight prescription drug abuse, visit [www.opioidprescribing.ohio.gov](http://www.opioidprescribing.ohio.gov).

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**New OARRS Rules for Pharmacists Effective February 1, 2016**

On February 1, 2016, updates to rule [4729-5-20 of the Ohio Administrative Code](#) became effective. This updated rule includes new requirements on when a pharmacist is required to review patient information in the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). To assist pharmacists in the implementation of this updated rule, the Board has put together a one-page fact sheet and pocket card that provides the circumstances in which a pharmacist will have to query OARRS.

These resources may be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OARRSRules](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OARRSRules)

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**One-Hour Jurisprudence CE Available for OARRS Rules**

To assist pharmacists in complying with the new OARRS rules, the Board developed a one-hour (0.1 CEU) pharmacy jurisprudence continuing education course. To take the course, visit: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OARRSEducation>

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**Changes to Continuing Education Rules**

Effective January 15, 2016, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy implemented rule changes related to continuing education requirements for patient/medication safety and pharmacy jurisprudence.

For additional information, including a copy of the updated rules, please visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/cechange](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/cechange).

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**Updates to Medical Board Rules on Prescribing Controlled Substances for Weight Loss & Binge Eating Disorder**

On December 31, 2015, the following rules were recently adopted/updated regarding the use of controlled substances for weight loss and the treatment of binge eating disorder:

[Rule 4731-11-03](#): Permits the prescribing of controlled substance stimulants for the treatment of binge eating disorder.

[Rule 4731-11-04](#): Use of controlled substances to assist in weight reduction.

[Rule 4731-11-04.1](#): Use of controlled substances for chronic weight management.

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**New and Updated Drug Compounding Rules 2016**

The Board recently added new rules and updated existing regulations regarding drug compounding. For a complete overview of the recent changes to the drug compounding chapter of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC 4729-16) please visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/compounding2016](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/compounding2016)

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