

SAFE OPIOID PRESCRIBING



Sponsored by the NYU Post-Graduate Medical School

Safe Opioid Prescribing

Saturday, December 17, 2011

Course Director: Michel Y. Dubois, MD

Course Organizers: Christopher Gharibo, MD, Lewis Nelson, MD, & David Stevens, MD

Location: NYU Langone Medical Center
550 First Avenue, Classroom B
New York, NY 10016



December 17, 2011

NYU Langone Medical Center

CONFERENCE BROCHURE: click [here](#)

TO REGISTER: click [here](#)*

***Pre-registration is available until 12pm on December 14th, 2011. After December 14th, only onsite registration will be accepted. Onsite registrants will incur an additional \$20 fee.**

Full Fee Physicians: \$150

Reduced Fee: \$75**

NYU: Wavied

****Reduced fee applies to NYU School of Medicine alumni, former residents and fellows; MD's employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center; full-time active military personnel; city and state health government personnel; nurse practitioners; and all other non-MD healthcare professionals.**

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Accreditation Statement: The NYU Post-Graduate Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit Designation Statement: The NYU Post-Graduate Medical School designates this live activity for a maximum of 7.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Course Description: In the last decade, there has been a dramatic increase in deaths and overdoses from prescription drugs - largely fueled by a rise in consumption of prescription painkillers, or "opioids". Over the last two decades there has been at least a tenfold increase in the medical use of opioid painkillers as part of a movement toward more aggressive pain management. Used appropriately, these drugs can provide significant benefit for patients who would be otherwise disabled or severely distressed by their pain symptoms. However, because opioids are more available and often prone to abuse and misuse because of their euphoric effects, they have become a public health problem in the United States.

In just the past decade poisoning death rates involving opioids have more than tripled in the United States. Among opioid-related deaths, those involving methadone increased the most, from 790 reported deaths in 1999 to 5,420 in 2006 - nearly sevenfold. According to the Report on the Nation's Health released in February 2011, overdose deaths from prescription opioids have exceeded deaths from heroin and cocaine overdoses combined for the past decade. There is a knowledge gap about safe pain management. Currently, practitioners are not required to obtain any education on the use

of these controlled narcotics, including methadone, before being licensed to prescribe them - and less than half of physicians receive instruction in pain management while in medical school. It is important that prescribers receive education on clinical standards on safe pain management, as well as the early warning signs of addiction. It has been suggested that such training will be mandatory in order for prescribers to receive their DEA license. Early in 2011, Senator Jay Rockefeller introduced the Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention And Treatment Act Of 2011 (S. 507), that would make such training mandatory. Thirty-eight states have already enacted legislation requiring prescription drug monitoring programs, and the federal government is considering the establishment of interoperable prescription drug monitoring programs within each state through the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting (NASPER) program. A bill has also been introduced that would create a National Opioid Death Registry to track all opioid-related deaths, and establish a standard form for medical examiners to fill out.

There is a need for evidence-based information to improve guidance for the safe and effective use of these powerful and dangerous controlled substances. In order to provide a better understanding of opioid risks to patients and to change attitudes concerning opioid prescribing, educational programs are urgently needed. To address this need, this proposed CME course on "Safe Opioid Prescribing" will focus on addressing current challenges and offer possible solutions for prescribers.

This one-day CME course will target all health professionals in the tri-state area who prescribe opioids. The conference will increase knowledge about opioid pharmacology, predict risks to patients when prescribing opioids and will inform practitioners about the societal concern of opioid prescribing. The primary methods of education used will consist of a combination of basic information obtained from lectures as well as interactive learning through several workshops.