



Health Professionals' Services Program

Program Guidelines

Title: Chronic Use of Medication with Addictive Potential

Pages: 1

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Guideline:

- 1 Licensees who are on long-term chronic pain medications (more than three months), that are
2 enrolled as mental health only participants, must have a comprehensive third-party evaluation,
3 to determine the medication is appropriately prescribed and not abused.

- 4 All licensees on medication with addictive potential other than pain medication must have a
5 comprehensive evaluation by an appropriate independent third-party evaluator.

- 6 Licensees on stimulants for ADD with/without hyperactivity may be required to obtain a
7 comprehensive evaluation by an appropriate third-party evaluator to confirm the diagnosis and
8 treatment/medication recommendations.

- 9 If a licensee is on the medication for more than one year, licensee in cooperation with the
10 prescriber and the HPSP Policy Advisory Committee will review the medication, and the
11 licensee may be required to obtain a third-party evaluation.

- 12 It may be medically appropriate for some licensees participating in HPSP to be prescribed
13 Buprenorphine or other Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as an adjunct to their other
14 behavioral treatment requirements. In such situations, HPSP will support this as part of their
15 substance use disorder treatment. Like other medications, HPSP licensees prescribed a MAT are
16 required to regularly submit a medication management form that is signed by their prescriber.
17 Further, they must follow all HPSP guideline requirements associated with medications and
18 continue with periodic testing to ensure adherence to the medication and abstinence from
19 other drugs. The prescribing physician, in consultation and approval by the HPSP Medical
20 Director, will identify medication duration and dosage. These factors, as well as the licensee's
21 position, will be considered carefully when making return to work recommendations in order to
22 protect public safety.