

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners Launches Website to Assist with Opioid Awareness and Prescription Concerns

www.knowyourpainmeds.com

(Reno, NV) – The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) is excited to announce the launch of a new website, www.knowyourpainmeds.com, designed to assist Nevada consumers in understanding the impact of using opioid-based medications.

The website, www.knowyourpainmeds.com, also serves as a portal for consumers to file a complaint if they believe their medical provider is not acting appropriately relative to the prescribing of medications.

“The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners understands the impact of the opioid epidemic and the tragic effect on the citizens of Nevada. We feel that the launch of this new informational tool clearly demonstrates the Board’s commitment to creating awareness and our efforts to address this problem,” said Edward O. Cousineau, J.D., the Board’s Executive Director.

Opioid medications have contributed to the deaths of more than 28,000 people in the United States in 2014, more than any other year on record, and at least half of those deaths were attributed to prescription pills, reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Closer to home, in Clark County, CDC reports that mortality from drug overdoses and opioid poisonings were 50 and 70 % higher than comparable national rates in 2012–2014, respectively.

The objective in developing www.knowyourpainmeds.com is to increase awareness of opioid medications and the potential health impacts when these powerful medications are prescribed. The website provides information on Nevada’s Prescription Monitoring Program, opioid antagonists (medications that can counteract an opioid overdose) and alternatives to opioids for sufferers of chronic pain.

The Board collaborated with the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, Nevada State Board of Nursing and Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners to develop the website. The launch is being supported by social media along with radio and television advertisements.

All healthcare providers who prescribe controlled substances and medications are required to be licensed by a state of Nevada licensing board. These licensing boards are empowered to protect Nevada citizens, and if you believe your medical provider is not acting appropriately relative to the prescribing of medications, you can file a complaint through www.knowyourpainmeds.com

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The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners serves the state of Nevada by ensuring that only well-qualified, competent physicians, physician assistants, respiratory therapists and perfusionists receive licenses to practice in Nevada. The Board responds with expediency to complaints against our licensees by conducting fair, complete investigations that result in appropriate action. In all Board activities, the Board will place the interests of the public before the interests of the medical profession and encourage public input and involvement to help educate the public as we improve the quality of medical practice in Nevada.