

# STOP Act

## Quick Facts

Strengthening Opioid Misuse Prevention (STOP) Act of 2017

### Prescribing Limits

Effective 1/1/18

- **Acute Pain, non-surgical:** Prohibits a provider from prescribing more than a **FIVE**-day supply of an opioid for pain relief.
- **Post-Op, Surgical Pain:** Prohibits a provider from prescribing more than a **SEVEN**-day supply of an opioid for post-operative acute pain relief immediately following a surgical procedure.
- **Further refills** require subsequent consultation; the provider may issue an appropriate refill with a consultation. The consultation can be face to face or over the phone. In either case, the provider must document the consultation.
- **Five- and seven-day limit** is not required for patients with cancer or patients in a hospital, nursing home, hospice, or residential care facility.

### NC Controlled Substance Reporting System (CSRS) Effective late 2018

- Providers should review a patient's 12-month history in the NC CSRS database prior to providing any opioid for pain relief and should review the patient's 12-month history every three months thereafter.
- The review must be documented in the chart or, when applicable, any technical reason that kept the provider from reviewing the NC CSRS.
- An NC CSRS review is not required for patients with cancer or patients in hospice, palliative care, the hospital, or long-term care facilities.

### Advanced Practice Providers

Effective 7/1/2017

- APPs must communicate with supervising physician prior to prescribing an opioid for greater than 30 days.
- Communication may be electronic or in person.
- The consultation should recur every 90 days for length of prescription.

### Definitions

**Acute Pain:** Pain, whether resulting from disease, accident, intentional trauma, or other cause, that the practitioner reasonably expects to last for three months or less. Acute pain does not include chronic pain or pain being treated as part of cancer care, hospice care, palliative care, or medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorder.

**Chronic Pain:** Pain that lasts for longer than three months or that lasts beyond the time of normal tissue healing.

**Surgical Procedure:** A procedure that is performed for the purpose of structurally altering the human body by incision or destruction of tissues as part of the practice of medicine. This term includes the diagnostic or therapeutic treatment of conditions or disease processes by use of instruments such as lasers, ultrasound, ionizing radiation, scalpels, probes, or needles that cause localized alteration or transportation of live human tissue by cutting, burning, vaporizing, freezing, suturing, probing, or manipulating by closed reduction for major dislocations and fractures, or otherwise altering by any mechanical, thermal, light-based, electromagnetic, or chemical means.