

## Controlled Substances: Opioids for Pain Management

Clinical Practice Guideline  
MedStar Health

*These guidelines are provided to assist physicians and other clinicians in making decisions regarding the care of their patients. They are not a substitute for individual judgment brought to each clinical situation by the patient's primary care provider-in collaboration with the patient. As with all clinical reference resources, they reflect the best understanding of the science of medicine at the time of publication but should be used with the clear understanding that continued research may result in new knowledge and recommendations.*

**MedStar Health endorses the 2022 CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain.**

**For access to full guideline visit Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) at:**  
[CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain-MMWR](#)

**Additional Information:**

**Health Care Professional Resources Available at:**  
[2022 CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain](#)

**Controlled Substance Agreement:**

All patients on long term opioid therapy and/or those at increased risk of opioid addiction as determined by the provider (even if prescribed short term opioid therapy) must sign a Controlled Substances Agreement. MedStar Health considers the Controlled Substances Agreement mandatory for all patients who are prescribed 90 days or more of continuous opioid therapy. All Controlled Substance Agreements should be reviewed and renewed annually if opioid therapy is ongoing.  
In Cerner/MedConnect EHR: Select from Orders: *Controlled Substance Agreement*

**Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP):**

Prescribers should attest in the patient's medical record, the information from the PDMP was requested and reviewed. Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs in Maryland, DC, and Virginia all share information with each other and several other states.

Regulatory information is available at:

[CRISP Health PDMP](#)

[DC Health PDMP](#)

[VA PMP](#)

**Initial Reviews and Approval Date:**

Sept 2014; Oct 2016; Oct 2018.  
Oct 2020, Oct 2022, Revised: Feb 2023  
(Reviewed and approved by:  
MedStar Opioid Stewardship Committee)

**Most Recent Revision and  
Approval Date:**

Copyright MedStar Health, 2012

**Next Scheduled Review Date:**

Feb 2025