Role of Dental Education in Addressing Prescription Drug Misuse

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The Role of Dentists

Would you give your child HEROIN to remove a wisdom tooth?

Ask Your Dentist How Prescription Drugs Can Lead to Heroin Abuse.

http://www.drugfreenj.org/
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL U.S. OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS THAT ARE PRESCRIBED BY DENTISTS1,2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
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In 2012, dentists accounted for 6.4% of total U.S. opioid prescriptions, or 18.5 million.2

Sources:

https://www.ada.org/~/media/ADA/Science%20and%20Research/HPI/Files/HPIGraphic_0118_1.pdf?la=en
Among other things, the ADA encourages dentists to:

- Follow and continually review Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state licensing board recommendations for safe opioid prescribing.
- Be aware of each patient's substance use history and to take this into consideration when planning treatment and prescribing medication.
- Consider nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory analgesics as the first-line therapy for acute pain management.
- Counsel patients about the benefits and drawbacks of using opioid analgesics, including their inherent abuse potential, and provide instruction on how to safely secure, monitor, and dispose of their unused medication at home.

Screen patients for risky substance use behaviors and, when indicated, be able to refer them for appropriate treatment (e.g., support line, addiction counselor, treatment facility, etc.).

Register with and use the state prescription drug monitoring program to promote the appropriate use of controlled substances for legitimate medical purposes, while deterring the misuse, abuse and diversion of these substances.

Seek continuing education in addictive disease and pain management as related to opioid prescribing.

In the interim policy, the Association says it supports the following:

- **Mandatory continuing education** on prescribing opioids and other controlled substances.
- **Prescribing limits** on opioid dosage and duration of no more than seven days for the treatment of acute pain, consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's evidence-based guidelines.
- Dentists **registering with and utilizing prescription drug monitoring programs** to promote the appropriate use of opioids and deter misuse and abuse.

When opioids are used for acute pain, clinicians should prescribe the lowest effective dose of immediate-release opioids and should prescribe no greater quantity than needed for the expected duration of pain severe enough to require opioids. Three days or less will often be sufficient; more than 7 days will rarely be needed.


https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6501e1.htm
Florida HB 21 took effect on July 1

Four key changes in the law for all dentists. They include:

• A requirement that dentists take a **Board-approved 2-hour CE course** on prescribing controlled substances;

• Prescription supply limits for the treatment of acute pain that may **not exceed 3 days or up to a 7 day supply in special circumstances**;

• The Florida Board of Dentistry develop guidelines for prescribing controlled substances for acute pain;

• And mandatory requirement for **all dentists to utilize the PDMP** for the prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances.

http://www.flhealthsource.gov/FloridaTakeControl/
Dental Education Core Competencies for the Prevention and Management of Prescription Drug Misuse

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR’S DENTAL EDUCATION WORKING GROUP ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

Governor’s Dental Education Working Group on Prescription Drug Misuse
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Massachusetts Dental Society
Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine
Harvard School of Dental Medicine
Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
February 2016

http://www.wbur.org/commonhealth/2016/02/11/dental-schools-opioid

2-23 At a minimum, graduates must be competent in providing oral health care within the scope of general dentistry, as defined by the school, including:

e. local anesthesia, and pain and anxiety control, including consideration of the impact of prescribing practices and substance use disorder,
Dental Education on the Opioid Epidemic

http://www.adea.org/OpioidEpidemic/
47% ↓ overall decrease in Rx
61% ↓ OMS decrease in Rx
No ↑ in return visits, calls or ED visits


Addressing the Opioid Epidemic: Impact of Opioid Prescribing Protocol at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

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Craniomaxillofac Trauma Reconstruction

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Dental Education on the Opioid Epidemic

Opioid abuse is a serious public health issue in the United States. Results from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) indicate that 3.3 million people over age 12, and an estimated 239,000 adolescents aged 12 to 17, abused prescription pain relievers in 2016. Common prescribers of opioids—internal medicine physicians, primary care physicians and dentists—must have ready access to the tools and resources required to identify and address addiction problems with their patients.

http://www.adea.org/OpioidEpidemic/