AG Grewal Announces Administrative Order Requiring Co-Prescribing of Naloxone for Certain At-Risk Opioid Patients during the COVID19 Emergency

ICYMI - Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal, the New Jersey Coordinator for Addiction Responses and Enforcement Strategies ("NJ CARES"), and the Division of Consumer Affairs announced on May 21, that New Jersey physicians, dentists, and other healthcare practitioners who prescribe opioids for the management of chronic pain must also prescribe the opioid antidote naloxone to certain at-risk patients during the COVID-19 crisis.

Under the terms of the Administrative Order, issued just prior to Memorial Day Weekend, physicians must co-prescribe naloxone to patients continuously receiving opioids for chronic pain management if the patient has one or more prescriptions totaling 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) or more per day, or is concurrently taking an opioid and a benzodiazepine.

The prescription must be noted in the patient’s chart. There is no requirement for the patient to fill the naloxone prescription.

The order is currently in effect and will stay in place until the end of the Public Health Emergency.

Here are links to the original Press Release and the Administrative Order: https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/News/Pages/05212020.aspx