



# AOMA DISPATCH

The Monthly eNewsletter of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association

## April 27, 2018

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### Are You Prepared? – AZ Opioid Act is in Effect

Many of the provisions of [SB 1001](#), the Opioid Epidemic Act, **are now in effect**. We implore every physician to spend time understanding the new law and its impacts. There are many provisions in the new law affecting prescribing, dispensing, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, continuing medical education, new licensure for pain management clinics, substance abuse treatment, etc.

To help you get up to speed quickly, AOMA has developed an [Opioid Law Presentation](#) summarizing all of the major provisions. Please check back periodically, as additional legislation is moving through the legislative process that may alter a few of the provisions.

If you have questions about any of the provisions, please contact AOMA Executive Director Pete Wertheim at [pwertheim@az-osteo.org](mailto:pwertheim@az-osteo.org) or 602-266-6699.

### Credentialing Reform Bill Passes – Legislative Victories Stacking Up

We are thrilled to report AOMA's "Going Home Bill" of the legislative session, [HB 2322 health insurers; provider credentialing](#) passed earlier this month. Known as the "Patients, Not Paperwork" bill, HB 2322 sponsored by Rep. Heather Carter reforms onerous and lengthy health plan credentialing processes. This bill places much needed time limits, penalties and disclosure requirements on commercial health plans' credentialing and loading of physician contracts. Beginning January, 1, 2019, credentialing and contract loading must be completed by health plans with 100 days.

AOMA, along with the Arizona Medical Association worked closely with the Health System Alliance of Arizona and the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare to advocate for this historic legislation. AOMA lobbyist Steve Barclay, JD, and the Arizona Medical Association's VP of Policy & Political Affairs Pele Fischer, JD deserve special thanks for their tireless efforts to get this bill passed. Rep. Heather Carter, AOMA's 2016 Distinguished Award Winner, exhibited great leadership and courage in sponsoring this bill. Click [here](#) to read the [press release](#) for more information.

Two other bills AOMA strongly supported this year also passed this month. [HB 2042 insurance coverage; telemedicine; urology](#), sponsored by Rep. Heather Carter requires health plans to cover telemedicine for pain medicine and substance beginning January 1, 2019 and urology in January 1, 2020. [HB 2107 pharmacies; practices; pharmacy benefits managers](#), sponsored by Rep. Maria Syms, prohibits health plans and pharmacy benefit managers from imposing gag orders on pharmacies/pharmacists to prevent them from informing patients about the availability of a lower cost options for medications.

The 2018 AOMA Legislative Report summarizing all of the major health bills passed will be available soon after the Legislature adjourns. For more information, please visit the [AOMA Advocacy Resource Center](#) or contact the AOMA office.

## Thank You for Making the AOMA 96th Annual Convention GREAT

It was a spectacular 2018 Annual Convention with more than 700 osteopathic physicians, students, and other medical professionals in attendance. The jam-packed, five-day event featured 46 different lectures, the annual clinical case competition, poster forum, Stump the Doc medical knowledge competition, alumni receptions, House of Delegates meeting, exhibit hall, family party, and awards luncheon. An enormous thank you to all the lecture speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and volunteers for their help in making this year's convention a HUGE success.

Congratulations to this year's AOMA Award Winners. Each and every honoree is a role model for the osteopathic profession. The complete list of [award winners](#), [case and poster winners](#), and [photos](#) from the Convention and the Family Party are posted on the AOMA website. Check it out!

Plan on joining us next year at the AOMA 97th Annual Convention April 10-14, 2019 at the Hilton Scottsdale.

**Online Attestation for CME Credits** - Osteopathic physicians and other medical professionals seeking to receive continuing medical education credits for the AOMA 96th Annual Convention must complete an attestation and evaluation form for the hours attended. **The deadline to submit is May 15, 2018.** Click [here](#) to access the form or visit [www.az-osteo.org/ConvCME](http://www.az-osteo.org/ConvCME).

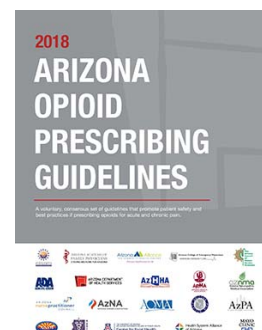
## 2018 Updated Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

The 2018 updated Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines are now available. The Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines are a voluntary, consensus set of guidelines that promote best practices for prescribing opioids for acute and chronic pain. They are intended to reduce the inappropriate use of controlled substances, improve safety, and reduce harm while preserving the vital roles of clinicians and patients in the management of acute and chronic pain. They are intended for use by clinicians in primary care and specialty outpatient settings who manage acute and chronic pain that is not occurring at the end of life and not due to malignancy.



AOMA 96th Annual Convention

Thank you for attending!



Copies of the guidelines may be ordered from the Arizona Department of Health Services at <http://azdhs.gov/audiences/clinicians/index.php#clinical-guidelines-and-rx-guidelines-order> or you can download a pdf version [here](#).

Download pdf [here](#).

### **Opioid Assistance + Referral Line for Arizona Providers**

Arizona has launched one of the nation's first 24/7 hotlines providing free, real-time consultations for clinicians with complex patients with pain and opioid use disorders, staffed by experts at the Poison and Drug Information Centers in Arizona.

This clinical service can assist providers with the management of:

- Patients taking high numbers of morphine milligram equivalents (MME)
- Patients that require an exit strategy from their current opioid regimen (including tapering)
- New patients on multiple controlled substances
- Challenging patients with pain and mental health/substance use comorbidities
- Patients with acute opioid overdose or toxicity
- Patients with acute opioid or benzodiazepine withdrawal
- Patients that require MAT (medication assisted treatment)
- Patients that require local referrals to behavioral health or substance use disorder treatment

Consistent with Poison Control protocols, these consultations will provide tailored, evidence-based (see Arizona Prescribing Guidelines 2018) real-time and follow-up services. Call them today, overnight or tomorrow: **1-888-688-4222**.

Additional Resources:

- [Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines \(2018\)](#)
- [Arizona Department of Health Services – Opioid Epidemic](#)
- [Poison Control – Tucson](#)
- [Poison Control – Phoenix](#)

AHCCCS Treatment Resources - [download pdf](#)

### **Congratulations 2018-2019 AOMA Officers**

AOMA is proud to announce the election of the AOMA Executive Offices for 2018-19: President Angela DeRosa, DO, MBA, CPE; Immediate Past President Laurel Mueller, DO, MBA; President-Elect Christopher Labban, DO; Vice President Danielle Barnett-Trapp, DO; Secretary/Treasurer Richard Dobrusin, DO, MS (Ost), FACOFP; Speaker of the House of Delegates Jeffrey Morgan, DO, MA, FACOI, CS; and Vice Speaker of the House of Delegates Charles Finch, DO, FACOEP. The officers were sworn in at the April 13th House of Delegates meeting at the Annual Convention. The House of Delegates also recognized Dr. Laurel Mueller for her outstanding service as AOMA President in 2017-2018.



**2018-2019 AOMA Office (left to right):** President Angela DeRosa, DO, MBA, CPE; Immediate Past President Laurel Mueller, DO, MBA; President-Elect Christopher Labban, DO; Secretary/Treasurer Richard Dobrusin, DO, MS (Ost), FACOFFP; Vice President Danielle Barnett-Trapp, DO; Speaker of the House of Delegates Jeffrey Morgan, DO, MA, FACOI, CS; and Vice Speaker of the House Charles Finch, DO, FACOEP.

See the Summer issue of the AOMA Digest for additional updates from the Annual Convention.

### Welcome New Board Members

The AOMA Board of Trustees welcomed new board members at its April 11, 2018 meeting. Joining the Board are Brandon Abbott, DO, MPH, FAAP - Member at Large; Marissa Jacobs, DO - Resident Trustee; and Homan Mostafavi, DO - Member at Large. Kendra Gray, DO continues on the Board as a Member at Large after her term as Resident Trustee.

Thank you to Shannon Scott, DO, FACOFFP; Wendell Phillips, DO; Kit McCalla, DO, MBA; and Brendan Curley, DO, MPH; for their tenure as Trustees. Your time and commitment to AOMA are genuinely appreciated.

### Opioid CME Available On-Demand

The new Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act requires physicians authorized to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances to complete a minimum of three hours of opioid-related continuing medical education each license renewal cycle as part of their existing requirements.

Moving forward, AOMA will offer a variety of CME programs so that all prescribers may comply with these requirements, both live and online courses.

AOMA's online CME catalog currently contains more than a dozen lectures on opioids and opioid prescribing, including:

- [Addressing the Opioid Crisis with OMT](#)
- [Drug Tapering, Modification, or Discontinuation: Establishing the Lowest Effective Dose](#)
- [Non-Opioid Approach to Pain and Musculoskeletal Disorders](#)
- [Use of Naloxone for Opioid Overdose](#)

Other lectures are also available. Go to [www.docme.org](http://www.docme.org) to access the entire list of online,

on-demand offerings. AOMA members receive a discount on all AOMA-owned content. Call the AOMA office at 602-266-6699 for the coupon code.

### **Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program Training Videos**

The Arizona Board of Pharmacy has produced a series of Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) training videos with the help of the Arizona Department of Health Services. The videos are designed to help healthcare professionals register for PMP database use, look up patient records, and understand the patient's report. The training also teaches prescribers how to use the PMP to monitor and be reassured that the prescriptions filled were those written by the prescriber.

For more information, contact Doug Skvarla, RPH, Arizona Prescription Monitoring Program Director, at [dskvarla@azpharmacy.gov](mailto:dskvarla@azpharmacy.gov) or 602-771-2744.

Click [here](#) to view the [CSPMP videos](#).

### **CSPMP Buprenorphine Announcement**

The Arizona Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) has changed the reporting for MME calculation for buprenorphine. Effective April 11, 2018, the following changes were made:

1. Buprenorphine will be excluded from displayed MME calculations.
2. In addition to displaying MMEs for opioids (excluding buprenorphine), the Summary section of a Patient Report will now also include information on buprenorphine in mg/day instead of MME.
3. The MME/D column in the Prescription section of the Patient Report will be updated to also include mg/day for buprenorphine prescriptions.

For more information, contact Doug Skvarla, RPH, Arizona Prescription Monitoring Program Director, at [dskvarla@azpharmacy.gov](mailto:dskvarla@azpharmacy.gov) or 602-771-2744.

PMP website: <https://pharmacympm.az.gov/>



**Patients are Looking  
for YOU!**



**Update Your Profile!**

One of the benefits of AOMA membership is the Find a Physician public directory search. Make sure your practice information is up to date by logging in to your member profile on the AOMA website. When you do, prospective patients and potential referring physicians will be able to find you.

**Join AOMA**

**Not an AOMA Member?**

Join today and be a part of the 97-year tradition of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association!

Membership in AOMA is an affordable vehicle to keep abreast of national and local issues, protect your professional practice, enhance your specialized skills, further your career, and be a part of the future of osteopathic medicine in Arizona.

Refer a new AOMA member and receive a \$100 credit. Go to [www.az-osteo.org/Recruit](http://www.az-osteo.org/Recruit)

**Arizona  
Vaccine News**



**AzDHS  
Immunization Program  
Website**

**[CDC Immunization  
Schedules](#)**

**AOMA Calendar of Events-[www.az-osteo.org](http://www.az-osteo.org)**

**AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting - June 23, 2018**

**AOA House of Delegates - July 19-21, 2018**

**4th Annual Flagstaff Osteopathic Medical Conference - August 11, 2018**

**AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting - November 9, 2018**

**AOMA 38th Annual Fall Seminar - November 10 & 11, 2018**

**AOMA House of Delegates - November 10, 2018**



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