

# CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

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## TREATMENT AGREEMENT ARIZONA

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### STATE SPECIFIC

Required by State:

*No requirements.*

Recommended by State (For Opioid Prescribing):

- The patient should receive prescriptions from one physician/practice, with that physician/practice designated in the agreement.<sup>1</sup>
- The patient should have prescriptions filled at one pharmacy, with the name and phone number of the pharmacy designated in the agreement.<sup>1</sup>
- The patient agrees to periodic drug testing (blood, urine, hair, or saliva).<sup>1</sup>
- The patient is responsible for safely using medication, meaning that the patient should store the medication in a secure location and safely dispose of any unused medication.<sup>1</sup>
- The goals of treatment.<sup>2</sup>
- The patient is prohibited from sharing, giving, or selling any medication to others.<sup>2</sup>
- Discuss any monitoring tools that the physician wishes to use, such as pill counts.<sup>2</sup>
- The physician will be available during emergencies or otherwise have a covering physician available in the event that unforeseen problems arise and to prescribe scheduled refills.<sup>3</sup>

### TO CONSIDER FROM OTHER STATES

Considerations:

- If the physician becomes concerned that there has been illegal activity, the physician may notify the authorities.
- The patient provides informed, written consent for release of the agreement to local emergency departments and/or pharmacies; therefore, other providers such as ER personnel or pharmacists may report violations of the agreement back to the prescribing physician.

- The prescriber's responsibility to provide referrals to substance abuse counseling when the abuse potential is present and also for failed drug screens.
- The patient may be responsible for keeping a pain diary or a diary of daily accomplishments.
- If the patient violates the terms of the agreement, those violations and the physician's response to them will be documented along with the rationale for changes in the treatment plan.

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## **INFORMED CONSENT**

### **ARIZONA**

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#### **STATE SPECIFIC**

Required by State:  
*No requirements.*

Recommended by State (For Opioid Prescribing):

- The physician should discuss the risks and benefits of the use of the controlled substance with:
  - The patient;
  - Persons designated by the patient; or
  - The patient's surrogate or guardian (if the patient is incompetent or without medical decision-making capacity).<sup>1</sup>
- The physician should provide reasons for which drug therapy may be discontinued, such as violation of the treatment agreement.<sup>1</sup>
- The physician's prescribing policies, including, for example, the number and frequency of prescription refills, a policy regarding early or urgent refills, a policy regarding replacement of lost or stolen medication, etc.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of potential side effects (short- and long-term) of the prescribed medication.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of the likelihood that tolerance and/or physical dependence on the prescribed medication will develop.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of the risk of the prescribed medication interacting with other drugs and of over-sedation.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of the risks of impaired motor skills that affect driving among other tasks.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of the limited evidence as to the benefit of long-term opioid therapy.<sup>3</sup>

- Inform the patient of the risks of opioid misuse, dependence, addiction, and overdose.<sup>3</sup>
- Inform the patient of alternative treatment options to opioid therapy.<sup>1</sup>
- Inform female patients of the risks during pregnancy and after delivery.<sup>2</sup>
- Alcohol should not be used in combination with the prescribed opioid.<sup>2</sup>
- All medications from other sources, including over the counters and medical marijuana, should be discussed and documented in the medical record.<sup>2</sup>
- Note that compliance with all components of the overall treatment plan is expected.<sup>2</sup>
- Periodic re-evaluation of treatment is needed.<sup>2</sup>
- The patient has the option to consent to the sharing of information with family members and other providers, as necessary.<sup>2</sup>
- Ensure the patient does not have any absolute contraindications and review risks and benefits related to any relative contraindications with the patient.<sup>2</sup>

## **TO CONSIDER FROM OTHER STATES**

### Considerations:

- The patient's diagnosis.
- Inform the patient that one of the risks of opioid therapy is death.
- Inform the patient of the risks of withdrawal.
- Educate the patient and caregivers about the danger signs of respiratory depression and that someone should summon medical help immediately if a person demonstrates signs of respiratory depression while on opioids.

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## **MINORS: ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **ARIZONA**

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### Required by State:

- AHCCCS and ADOA are to adopt necessary policies and rules to limit all initial and subsequent opioid prescriptions for minors are limited to no more than seven days (except in the case of cancer, other chronic disease, or traumatic injury).<sup>4</sup>

**NOTE: This resource covers only informed consent and treatment plan requirements; there may be many other requirements, such as limitations on the quantity of medication prescribed, etc.**

<sup>1</sup> Arizona Medical Board, *Guidelines for Opioid Addiction Treatment in the Medical Office*, <https://azmd.gov/Files/Guidelines/ModelPolicyGuidelinesForOpioidAddictionTreatmentInTheMedicalOffice.pdf> (Accessed January 2017).

<sup>2</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, *Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines*, <http://www.azdhs.gov/documents/audiences/clinicians/clinical-guidelines-recommendations/prescribing-guidelines/az-opiod-prescribing-guidelines.pdf> (Accessed January 2017).

<sup>3</sup> Arizona Medical Board, *Reference for Physicians on the Use of Opioid Analgesics in the Treatment of Chronic Pain, in the Office Setting*, <https://azmd.gov/Files/Guidelines/ReferenceOnTheUseOfOpioidAnalgesics.pdf> (Accessed January 2017).

<sup>4</sup> State of Arizona Executive Order 2016-06. Prescription Opioid; Initial Fill Limitation, [http://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/prescription\\_opioid\\_initial\\_fill\\_limitation\\_e.o\\_0.pdf](http://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/prescription_opioid_initial_fill_limitation_e.o_0.pdf) (Accessed January 2017).



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