

## Clinical Challenges in Opioid Prescribing: Balancing Safety and Efficacy

Do you prescribe opioid medications? If so, this course is for you!

Register here: http://www.regonline.com/samhsacme2015-maine

## Learning Objectives:

- 1. Describe the nature of chronic pain and options for its treatment.
- 2. Select patients who are appropriate candidates for opioid management of chronic pain.
- 3. Define risk factors for potential misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescribed opioid medications.
- 4. Recognize the importance of consistent screening for risk prior to prescribing.
- 5. Outline a time-efficient method of conducting risk screening.
- 6. Follow an evidence-based protocol for starting patients on opioid analgesic therapy, including safely initiating and titrating opioids.
- 7. Monitor patients' response to opioids and address problems such as inadequate response to treatment.
- 8. Recognize problematic or aberrant drug-taking behaviors and be able to distinguish unintentional misuse, pseudoaddiction, or chemical coping from deliberate misuse, abuse, and diversion.
- 9. Outline a time-efficient approach to dealing appropriately with aberrant drug-taking behaviors, including referral to specialized addiction treatment programs when indicated.

## Approved for a maximum of 8.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™.

**Event Description:** Each year, millions of patients are treated for a variety of serious medical conditions with prescriptions drugs. This free SAMHSA-sponsored course will provide specific knowledge and skills associated with safe prescribing of opioids, including balancing optimal pain relief and preventing inappropriate use of opioid analgesics.

**Accreditation Statement:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Postgraduate Institute for Medicine and SAMHSA. The Postgraduate Institute for Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.







South Portland, Maine