

**THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PAIN REGISTRY:
IMPACT EVALUATION OF THE 2012 AMERICAN
COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN OPIOID
PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES**

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WWW.EMPAINLINE.ORG

Background



- Emergency department pain management and opioid prescribing decisions are complicated by the nation's epidemic of prescription opioid related overdose and death.
- In 2012, the American College of Emergency Physicians developed evidence-based opioid prescribing guidelines to assist emergency physicians in making opioid-related prescribing decisions.
- Our project targeted the dissemination of these guidelines, using peer clinician and patient feedback to achieve higher rates of implementation than traditional strategies.

Project Pilot Phase



- Developed CME modules (based on ACEP guidelines)
- Developed instruments and strategies for physician enrollment, assessment, and feedback
 - Enrolled 66 emergency physicians in Houston area pilot
 - Participants completed CME modules, and conducted up to three rounds of self-assessment, including 178 chart audits, 124 patient interviews, and 129 physician surveys.
 - Solicited individual physician feedback and conducted one physician focus group
- Barriers discovered in pilot phase
 - Limited applicability of ACEP guidelines themselves
 - Excessive time demands on clinicians
 - Patient privacy concerns

Revision and new CME/MOC Products



- Revised curriculum based on lessons learned:
 - Emphasized key messages, including risk assessment, prescribing practices, and opioid storage/disposal
 - Reduced physician workload, conforming to ABEM MOC process
 - Produced online CME curriculum, including video content by nationally recognized emergency physicians and patient advocates, to model best practices
 - Conducted national emergency physician survey to provide peer benchmarking data for participant feedback
- Received American Board of Emergency Medicine certification of the EMPainline activity as satisfying ABEM's practice improvement requirements for maintenance of specialty board certification

Participant Comments



- *“...you put out a really professional, user friendly, clinically relevant and timely product.”*
- *“Peer profiling has been promised since I was a resident, and you so rarely get it.”*
- *“I think this format of data driven feedback and the addition of concrete suggestions for future improvement that is linked to the feedback data will be really helpful for anyone going through the process.”*
- *“Thanks for putting so much time and effort into really getting this right!!”*

Final CME/MOC Product: EMPainline Website



- EMPainline is an American Board of Emergency Medicine-approved, web-based CME/MOC resource targeting emergency physicians opioid prescribing behaviors.
- The EMPainline website, including the Prescription Opioid CME/MOC curriculum, is now online and available for national dissemination.
- In the first month it received approximately 1,700 hits and 200 unique visits. Thus far, 19 physicians have enrolled in the MOC process, with 7 having completed the program and received ABEM MOC practice improvement certification.

www.empainline.org