

West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses Guidelines for Continuing Education Requirements for Drug Diversion Training and Best Practice Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses (Board) guidelines for continuing education (CE) requirements for drug diversion training and best practice prescribing of controlled substances are defined as educational offerings that include information on drug diversion training about the use of licit drugs for illicit purpose of abuse or misuse and best practice prescribing of controlled substances that include information about safe and effective prescribing, administration and or dispensing of controlled substances in patient care.

Drug Diversion and Best Practice Prescribing of Controlled Substances Training Guidelines Continuing Education Guidelines.

“Best practice prescribing of controlled substances training” means training which includes the following:

- a) Patient evaluation, including addiction risk assessment;
- b) Treatment plans that incorporate functional goals;
- c) Informed consent and prescribing agreements;
- d) Periodic review and monitoring of patients including pill counts and drug testing;
- e) Referral and patient management;
- f) Documentation;
- g) Compliance with state and federal law;
- h) Patient education on safe use, storage and disposal of opioid medications; and
- i) Termination strategies for chronic therapy
- j) Compliance with controlled substances laws and rules.
- k) Registration with and use of the West Virginia Controlled Substances Monitoring Program established in West Virginia Code Chapter 60A Article 9.
- l) Maintenance of a record of attendance of each individual who successfully completes the drug diversion training and best practice prescribing of controlled substances training.

“Drug diversion training” means training which includes the following:

- a.) Prescription drug abuse and misuse.
- b.) Epidemiology of chronic pain and misuse of opioids.
- c.) Indications for opioids in chronic pain treatment including general characteristics, toxicities and drug interactions.
- d.) Initiation and ongoing management of a chronic pain patient treated with opioid based therapies, including treatment objectives; monitoring and periodic review; referrals and consultations; informed consent; prescription of controlled substance agreements, urine screens and pill counts; patient education on safe use, storage and disposal of opioids; discontinuation of opioids for pain due to lack of benefits or increased risks; and documentation of medical records.
- e.) Identification of diversion and drug seeking tactics and behaviors.
- f.) Best practice methods for working with patients suspected of drug seeking behavior and diversion.
- g.) Compliance with controlled substances laws and rules.
- h.) Registration with and use of the West Virginia Controlled Substances Monitoring Program established in West Virginia Code Chapter 60A Article 9.
- i.) Maintenance of a record of attendance of each individual who successfully completes the drug diversion training and best practice prescribing of controlled substances training.

Specific Board guidelines include the following:

1. The initial course(s) is at least a total of 3 contact hours and may be counted as part of the current 12 contact hour annual registered nurse (RN) CE requirement and must be completed on or before October 31 of the license renewal period.
2. After the first 3 contact hour course, subsequent updates must be at least 1 contact hour and may be counted as part of the current 12 contact hour annual RN CE requirement and must be completed on or before October 31 of each year.
3. The training may be in 1 or 2 courses or a portion of a longer program provided the brochure or agenda describes the content and the number of hours related to the requirements.
4. The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional nurses accepts RN CE credit approved by any state board of nursing, or state/national nursing association approved RN CE provider course related to drug diversion training or best prescribing practice for controlled substances.

Reference

1. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) 2014. Review Course in Addiction Medicine, Nashville, TN.
2. National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI). 2015. Retrieved from http://www.naddi.org/aws/NADDI/pt/sp/home_page .

3. Fishman, S. M. (2012). Responsible Opioid Prescribing: A Clinicians Guide. (2nd Ed.) Waterford Life Sciences.