

## **Health Professionals' Services Program Program Guidelines**

**Title: Chronic Use of Medication with Addictive Potential** 

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## **Guideline:**

- 1 Licensees who are on long-term chronic pain medications (more than three months) must have
- 2 a third-party evaluation by an addiction specialist.
- 3 Licensees on medication with addictive potential other than pain medication must have an
- 4 evaluation by an appropriate independent third-party evaluator.
- 5 Licensees on stimulants for ADD with/without hyperactivity must have a formal evaluation to
- 6 confirm the diagnosis and treatment/medication recommendations.
- 7 If a licensee is on the medication for more than one year, licensee must have an annual
- 8 medication evaluation by a third-party evaluator. On rare occasions, exceptions to this policy
- 9 may be made after review by the HPSP Policy Advisory Committee.
- 10 It may be medically appropriate for some licensees participating in HPSP to be prescribed
- 11 Buprenorphine or other Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as an adjunct to their other
- 12 behavioral treatment requirements. In such situations, HPSP will support this as part of their
- substance use disorder treatment. Like other medications, HPSP licensees prescribed a MAT are
- required to regularly submit a medication management form that is signed by their prescriber.
- 15 Further, they must follow all HPSP guideline requirements associated with medications and
- 16 continue with periodic testing to ensure adherence to the medication and abstinence from
- other drugs. The prescribing physician, in consultation and approval by the HPSP Medical
- 18 Director, will identify medication duration and dosage. These factors, as well as the licensee's
- 19 position, will be considered carefully when making return to work recommendations in order to
- 20 protect public safety.