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NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Position/Policy Statement

Pain Clinic Regulations

The National Safety Council supports continued state policy development that deters establishment or operation of “pain clinic” and “pain management” facilities that operate outside guidelines for licensed, qualified physicians and whose primary treatment is prescribing opioids. Laws should address requirements for acceptable standards of medical care including:

- Following prescribing guidelines in accordance with standards established by state licensing authorities and prevailing practice standards.
- Restrictions on dispensing controlled substances.
- Required use of their state’s prescription drug monitoring program if the PDMP provides reliable, timely information.
- Appropriate medical evaluation including adequate history and physical examination.
- Appropriate risk assessment at each visit.
- Appropriate documentation.
- Periodic inspection by state authorities.

The Council supports implementation of state laws that control and regulate pain clinics and that deter the operation of “pill mills” which will result in immediate and longer term benefits in state’s efforts to reduce prescription opioid abuse, overdose and loss of life.

This position statement reflects the opinions of the National Safety Council but not necessarily those of each member organization.

Adopted by the Council, November, 2014