



Department of Health
Agency of Human Services



Pain Medication Conference to Discuss Vermont-specific Issues

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BURLINGTON – A “Safe and Effective Opioid Prescribing for Chronic Pain” conference will be held on March 31, 2011 (7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) at the Burlington Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center.

The conference will explore clinical issues for prescribers including treatment of pain and drug dependence, proper assessment, monitoring, and documentation techniques.

“Opiates are important tools that improve the quality of life for many patients, however abuse, diversion, and questionable prescribing are problems in Vermont, the same as they are across much of the United States,” said David Herlihy, director of the Board of Medical Practice. “We are seeing more cases that involve prescription pain medications in one way or another.”

The conference is presented by the Health Department’s Board of Medical Practice in partnership with the Vermont Medical Society and the Boston University School of Medicine.

Barbara Cimaglio, deputy commissioner, will speak about the Health Department’s new integrated hub-and-spoke addiction treatment model.

A panel discussion with both state and federal regulators and law enforcement officials, including the Vermont State Police and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, will focus on Vermont-specific issues related to prescription drug abuse.

Lead presenters are Jane Liebschutz, MD, MPH, associate professor of medicine and social and behavioral sciences, Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health; Jeffrey Baxter, MD, assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and Daniel Alford, MD, MPH, associate professor of medicine, Boston University School of Medicine.

The conference will cost \$75 and is open to physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, podiatrists, and pharmacists.

Registration and the conference agenda are available at: http://healthvermont.gov/hc/med_board/bmp.aspx

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of Boston University School of Medicine and the Vermont Board of Medical Practice. Boston University School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Boston University School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Continuing Nursing Education Provider Unit, Boston University School of Medicine is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

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