

Vermont Medical Society proposed language
March 14, 2014
H. 645, Section 3

Sec. 3. 21 V.S.A. § 640c is added to read:

§ 640c. OPIOID AND OPIATE USAGE DETERRENCE

(b) As it pertains to workers' compensation, the Commissioner, in consultation with the Department of Health, the State Pharmacologist, the Vermont Board of Medical Practice, and the Vermont Medical Society, shall adopt rules, consistent with the best practices, governing the prescription of opioids and opiates, including appropriate ~~diagnoses that require opioid and opiate treatment, opioid and opiate dosage amounts,~~ patient screening, and drug screening for patients prescribed opioids and opiates for chronic pain. In adopting rules, the Commissioner shall consider guidelines and standards published by the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and other medical authorities with expertise in the treatment of chronic pain. The rules shall be aligned with the standards and guidelines provided under 18 V.S.A. § 4289 and any rules adopted by the Department of Health pursuant to 18 V.S.A § 4289.

Section 14 of Act 75 of 2013 is amended as follows:
Uniform Pain Management System Advisory Council

(b) The Unified Pain Management System Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

....

(4) the Commissioner of Labor or designee;

....

(xx) a clinician who specializes in occupational medicine or physical medicine and rehabilitation;

(xx) a consumer representative who is an injured worker;