

October 24, 2016

## CPSA hosts prescribing forum to discuss solutions to opioid crisis

Realizing that physician prescribing and medical regulation are key components in addressing the opioid crisis, the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) will host an opioid prescribing forum October 25<sup>th</sup>.

“Physicians and the CPSA need to do more to avoid creating new opioid-dependent patients and appropriately treating those already on opioids, but we can’t do it alone,” notes CPSA Registrar Dr. Trevor Theman. “We need better coordination, better information, and the commitment of many different stakeholders if we’re going to make a difference. This forum is the first step toward those intentions.”

The College has 5 key goals for the forum and subsequent discussions:

1. Appropriate prescribing
2. Emergency (rescue) interventions for patients in crisis
3. Addiction treatment
4. Pain treatment
5. Data and information

A panel of speakers from the CPSA, Alberta College of Pharmacists, Alberta Health Services, Edmonton Police Service and Alberta Health as well as physician experts in chronic pain management will address the broad issue regarding over-supply of opioids as well as implications for patient care. Physicians, other health care providers, and representatives from the pharmaceutical industry and pain support groups are registered to attend the session, bringing a front-line perspective to the conversation. See the [detailed agenda](#) for details.

Registration for the invite-only forum is full, but the session will be webcast live at <http://bit.ly/OpioidForumCPSA>.

### Media availability

1:30 -2:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 25  
6<sup>th</sup> floor, 9990 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton

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*Good medical practice is what the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta is about. We issue practice permits to those who meet education and training criteria, ensure Alberta physicians uphold ethical and medical practice standards, and investigate and resolve physician-related complaints. We also accredit various medical facilities and provide direction on policy issues that help ensure responsible healthcare delivery.*

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