

Opioid Toolkit

The Department of Health and Human Services notes that the U.S. is in the midst of a prescription drug overdose epidemic. “Since 1999, the amount of prescription drugs prescribed and sold in the United States has nearly quadrupled, yet there has not been an overall change in the amount of pain that Americans report. Overprescribing leads to more abuse and more overdose deaths.”



In an effort to prevent overprescribing, associations, governmental organizations and regulators created specific opioid prescribing continuing education materials, guidelines and toolkits. In response to member requests for prescribing guidelines, NCSBN has created a toolkit of these materials for practitioners.

The **Opioid Toolkit** includes the following:

- Continuing Education materials from organizations like the American Society of Addiction Medicine and the National Institute on Drug Abuse.
- Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids from the CDC and FSMB
- Links to toolkits on Overdose Prevention

NCSBN also continues to offer free resources for nurses – continuing education [courses](#), [brochures](#), [posters](#), and a brief [video](#) – as part of its Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Initiative.



BONs are invited to use the following as appropriate:

- Insert a [promo box](#) (shown above and left) on their websites to promote free CEs and opioid resources
- Provide links to the [educational materials](#) on their website
- Offer these materials (including the toolkit) to Schools of Nursing looking for additional resources on opioids
- Use these materials and state-level work on opioids as examples of current patient protection efforts in meeting with legislators

Are you aware of a resource we should include? Please let us know by sending an email to: opioidsresources@ncsbn.org