**IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT**

**CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS**

October 20, 2016

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to PART D, Section 1. Section 19.09 of the mental hygiene law, pertaining to prescription controlled substances, new educational materials were developed by the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Health, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement to assist pharmacies with required educational efforts.

Effective October 22, 2016 pharmacies registered in New York State must educate individuals at the time of dispensing a prescribed controlled substance medication. This education must include the following:

1. The dangers of misuse and the potential risk for addiction to prescription controlled substances,
2. The physical and behavioral warning signs of addiction,
3. Available alcohol and drug addiction treatment resources, and
4. Proper disposal guidelines for unused prescription controlled substances.

Pharmacies may choose to provide additional information and may distribute the information through electronic means, if the consumer opts to receive information electronically.

For more information and to download the Controlled Substance Fact Sheet, visit the NYS OASAS and the DOH websites. Information is available to download and/or order in multiple languages.

[Order Form](http://combatheroin.ny.gov/sites/default/files/resources/CH-OrderForm.pdf)

[Fact Sheet](http://combatheroin.ny.gov/sites/default/files/resources/12022_ImportantFacts_RxPainMeds_101816.pdf)

[NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services website](https://www.oasas.ny.gov/CombatAddiction/GetInfo.cfm)

[NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement website](http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/narcotic/)