**NCIL Commends Oregon Medical Board Updated Statement of Philosophy on Pain Management**

May 8, 2024

NCIL commends the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) on their recent 2024 update to their OMB Statement of Philosophy on Pain Management. NCIL, Oregon's Centers for Independent Living, and NCIL's Chronic Pain / Opioid Workgroup members (including members from Oregon) organized an important letter to the Oregon Medical Board. This sparked meetings (public and private) with the board, in collaboration with the founders of Oregon Pain Action Group.

The OMB's updated Statement of Philosophy on Pain Management is improved and better reflects the updated 2022 CDC Guidelines on opioid prescribing, including warnings of harms that ensued from the misapplication of the 2016 CDC Guideline.

The Board has made changes to protect Oregonians with chronic pain from harmful dosage reduction and abandonment. The new Board statement:

* Incorporates the new CDC 2022 Opioid Prescribing Guidelines
* Removes arbitrary and non-patient-centered Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) thresholds
* Emphasizes patient-centered individualized care
* Removes language that incentivized transitioning stable medication regimens to buprenorphine for chronic pain

More information:

* [Oregon Medical Board Update](https://www.oregon.gov/omb/board/Philosophy/Pages/Pain-Management.aspx)
* [OMB newsletter announcement](https://www.oregon.gov/omb/Newsletter/Winter%202024.pdf) (Page 4)

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