

# RECENT NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATION RELATED TO OPIOID PRESCRIBING

## NEW YORK STATE LAW:

- **Limits the prescription of opioids from 30 days to seven days for acute pain upon initial consultation**
  - Applies to schedule II, III and IV opioids
  - Defines “acute pain” as pain that the practitioner reasonably expects to last only a short period of time
  - Excludes chronic pain, pain being treated as part of cancer care, hospice or palliative care practices
  - Limits co-payments to the proportionate amount between the copayment for a 30-day supply and the amount of drugs the patient was prescribed, *or* the equivalent to the copay for the full 30-day supply (provided that no additional copays may be charged for any additional prescriptions for the remainder of the 30-day supply)

Effective Date: July 22, 2016

- **Requires ongoing education on addiction and pain management for all prescribers authorized to prescribe opioids by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and for every prescribing resident under a facility registration**
  - Requires that prescribers complete three hours of coursework on pain management, palliative care and addiction by July 1, 2017 and every three years thereafter
  - Coursework may be taken online
  - Course completion must be documented on a form disseminated by the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) Commissioner
  - Exceptions are allowed for those who can demonstrate to the NYS DOH's satisfaction that there would be no need to complete the course; or that the prescriber has completed course work deemed as equivalent by the NYS DOH

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**For more information, including NYS DOH-sponsored free course work, visit [health.ny.gov](http://health.ny.gov) and search [mandatory prescriber education](#).**