

Questions Answered by St. Marie

Q: Where can you access the Prescription monitoring program?

A: Each state has their own means for access. In Minnesota, the data base has been funded and maintained through money provided to the State Board of Pharmacy. I would recommend, depending on your state, that you start out with trying to access your prescription monitoring program through

Google: prescription monitoring program [name your state]

If you cannot access it, call the state board of pharmacy in your state and find out what they know about accessing it.

Q: Barb, if you are doing a phone consultation with another facility in your system and you run a PMP report, is this still a HIPPA violation?

A: Good question. When you access your prescription monitoring program you sign a waiver with each access that you will not share sensitive or confidential information and that you are a member of the treatment team. Sharing information from the prescription monitoring program with another facility, unless you have been formally consulted should not be done. If you have questions further about this, first check the waiver you see prior to accessing information and you may find your answers there.

Otherwise, check with your HIPPA compliance person in your facility or department. If you practice independently and outside an organization with a compliance department, check with the State Board of Pharmacy.

Q: You referred to Reiki, and magnetic therapies, would you expand on those modalities please?

A: I am not expert in these areas and would refer you to the Core Curriculum for Pain Management Nursing where there is a chapter on Integrative Therapies for Pain Management. In my practice, I have been trained in acupressure through a local college and offer this modality myself, to my patients as part of my usual care (not as a separate procedural charge). If you know of a Reiki specialist you can refer for their services, however insurance may not cover this service. The same would apply to magnet therapies.

Q: Can APNs, upon being trained, practice facet injections and interventional pain management?

A: I am not as familiar with facet or ESI injections given by APNs, however, there are websites you can check out for more information. There are two organizations from where I receive mailings about these training areas. One is the Dannemiller Pain Review and its web site is <http://cme.dannemiller.com/cme-center/anesthesia/>. They may be a resource to find answers to your questions. The other is the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine at <http://www.asra.com/>. They may have some information for you about training or mentoring of advanced practice nurses on procedures. My own experience in this was when I had a practice in Internal Medicine, I was trained by my collaborative physicians on trigger point injections, and extra-articular nerve blocks. I would use these in my primary care practice. Also, while in clinical training in my NP program, I rotated through a Nurse Practitioner run Emergency Room and learned how to inject anesthetic agents into fingers prior to suturing; however, I did not use this technique in my own independent practice. So, there are other individuals more expert than I.

Q: Are you using topical NSAIDs for pain control?

A: Yes, I will often use a ketoprofen 10% gel that is compounded by our pharmacy dependent through Fairview. I use this when there are inflammatory mediators creating painful stimuli, which is most of the time in my practice, i.e. trauma, surgical pain, myofascial pain.

Q: when do we expect pain management certification to be available in advanced practice through ANCC?

A: The Board of Directors of the American Society for Pain Management Nursing are investigating this possibility as we speak. I look forward to their leadership in guiding us in this.

Q: Certification - is ASPMN the only certification nationally? Is there any peds certification? Are there credentials given?

A: The certification in pain management nursing is the only one offered and is focused on nursing practice only. The one certification examination covers content for all populations across the life span including pediatrics and gerontology. This certification examination is a partnership between the American Nurses Credentialing Center and the American Society for Pain Management Nursing. Here is the web site, <http://www.aspmn.org/Certification/index.htm> , and the credentials are RN-BC.