“Improving Pain Management with the Department of Veterans Affairs
Part 1”

Presented by: Janette E. Elliott, RN-BC, MSN, AOCN
on January 28, 2015

Webcast Post-test Answers
(Answers are in bold)

1. Which is of the following statements regarding the Veteran’s Health Administration (VHA) development of the Opioid Safety Initiative (OSI) is FALSE? The OSI was developed in response to:
   a. Increasing levels of PTSD among returning veterans.
   b. Increasing rates of overdose related to prescription opioids.
   c. Increasing rates of overdose related to combination benzodiazepine and opioid prescriptions.
   d. Pressure by congress to stop over-prescribing of opioids.

2. In the veteran population, the highest level of opioid prescribing is in veterans:
   a. Without mental health issues.
   b. With mental health issues but without PTSD.
   c. With mental health issues and PTSD.
   d. With cancer and mental health issues.

3. Which of the following statements is true?
   a. Research has shown that higher doses of opioids in patients with low back pain consistently result in increased physical functioning.
   b. The employment rate is higher in patients taking higher opioid doses.
   c. There is solid research evidence that long-term opioid use is effective and safe.
   d. There is solid research identifying long-term risks of opioid consumption.
4. The VHA OSI:
   a. Mandates the discontinuation of opioids in patients with persistent non-malignant pain.
   b. **Provides education to providers and patients about opioid analgesics.**
   c. Mandates the use of the opioid risk tool prior to opioid prescribing.
   d. Concerns opioid prescribing alone when discussing pain management.

5. The VHA OSI consists of:
   a. A system-wide approach to pain management.
   b. Patient-centric goals of patient care.
   c. A set of 9 goals to improve pain management.
   d. Patient and staff education about pain management.
   e. **All of the above.**