



National Association of State  
Controlled Substances Authorities

## **NASCSA Resolution 2018 - 04 October 2018 Scottsdale, AZ**

### **A Resolution Encouraging State Controlled Substance Authorities and Boards of Pharmacy to Review and Assess State Controlled Substance Laws and Regulations Relating to Injectable/Implantable Buprenorphine Dispensing**

**WHEREAS**, the federal Controlled Substances Act ("CSA") is the statute that regulates the manufacture, importation, exportation, distribution and dispensing of substances of abuse and listed chemicals; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSA was enacted in 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, new, long-acting injectable/implantable buprenorphine formulations have been developed and approved by the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") subject to restrictive distribution programs; and

**WHEREAS**, mandated restricted distribution programs typically require a specialty pharmacy to dispense these buprenorphine medications to authorized health care professionals for direct administration to patients; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSA (and possibly State laws and regulations) requires pharmacies to dispense controlled substance medication pursuant to prescriptions to the "ultimate user," the patient or members of their household; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 2, 2018, Congress passed the "Support for Patients and Communities Act of 2018" (H.R. 6), modifying the CSA to permit pharmacies to dispense buprenorphine injectable/implantable formulations to practitioners; and

**WHEREAS**, there is uncertainty about the interpretation and implementation of these new specific buprenorphine dispensing laws and their impact on State laws and regulations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the uncertainties discussed above may unintentionally restrict access to needed medication for opioid use disorder at the time of an ongoing national opioid crisis.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities ("NASCSA") encourages state controlled substance authorities and boards of pharmacy to immediately review and assess their State laws and regulations to incorporate, as necessary, the recent changes to the CSA regarding the delivery of buprenorphine injectable/implantable products approved by FDA for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

ATTEST:   
President

Date: November 1, 2018