

# Family Medicine

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF TEACHERS OF FAMILY MEDICINE

Appendix Table 1: Comparison of Participants' Comfort, Knowledge, and Concern in Assessing and Managing Patients Using Opioids for Chronic Noncancer Pains (N=72)

	Baseline			3 Months			9 Months			P- Values for Mean Differences*
	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	
<b>Comfort<sup>a</sup></b>										
<i>How comfortable are you...</i>										
1. seeing patients who use controlled substances for chronic noncancer pains?	0.78	2.8	0.8	0.70	3.6	0.7	0.72	3.4	0.7	<.001
2. with patients likely to abuse the controlled substance?	0.75	2.5	0.9	0.70	3.3	0.9	0.73	3.4	1.0	<.001
3. confronting patients with addiction?	0.77	2.6	1.0	0.71	3.3	0.9	0.71	3.2	0.9	<.001
4. negotiating a controlled substance agreement with a patient?	0.76	2.9	0.9	0.72	3.8	0.8	0.73	3.9	0.9	<.001
5. refusing prescription to a patient who does not need controlled substance?	0.79	3.2	1.1	0.74	3.9	0.9	0.70	4.2	0.9	<.001
6. referring addicted patients to a psychiatric and/or addiction specialist?	0.79	3.2	1.0	0.76	4.0	0.9	0.76	3.9	1.0	<.001
7. prescribing a long-acting narcotic medication for chronic use? <i>Reversed scored.</i>	0.81	2.2	1.0	0.76	2.5	1.1	0.77	2.7	1.0	0.017
<b>Overall</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
<b>Knowledge<sup>b</sup></b>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<b>P Value</b>
<i>How often do you...</i>										
1. establish a diagnosis before prescribing a controlled substance?	0.92	3.5	1.4	0.93	3.9	1.1	0.87	4.1	1.0	.020
2. formulate a treatment plan to includes appropriate non-addictive modalities?	0.92	3.9	1.1	0.92	4.2	1.1	0.88	4.5	0.8	.004
3. ensure that alternative treatment modalities are used instead?	0.91	4.0	1.2	0.92	4.1	1.0	0.87	4.4	0.8	.108
4. ensure non-addictive regimens are given before controlled drugs?	0.92	3.3	1.4	0.92	3.6	1.2	0.86	4.0	1.0	.002
5. ensure you are not dealing with a drug seeking patient?	0.91	3.4	1.4	0.92	3.8	1.1	0.87	4.1	1.0	.002
6. ensure patients know relative risks/benefits of a controlled substance?	0.91	3.5	1.3	0.92	3.7	1.2	0.87	4.2	0.9	.001
7. monitor patients through history and physical evaluation?	0.91	3.5	1.3	0.92	3.9	1.0	0.87	4.2	0.9	.002
8. keep detailed records of drug type, dose, and amount prescribed?	0.91	3.7	1.5	0.93	3.9	1.1	0.87	4.3	0.9	.012
<b>Overall</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>.001</b>
<b>Concerns<sup>c</sup></b>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>α</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<b>P Value</b>
<i>To what degree is the following concern you?</i>										
1. Your knowledge of regulations regarding safe, legal prescribing.	0.85	3.0	1.1	0.87	3.3	0.9	0.78	2.3	0.6	.001
2. Your skills at determining patients most likely to abuse medication.	0.85	3.0	0.9	0.87	3.3	0.8	0.73	2.4	0.7	.001

3. A general suspicion of patients seeking controlled substances.	0.84	3.1	0.9		0.87	3.3	0.8		0.75	2.4	0.5		.001
4. Your knowledge of which medications and dosages to use.	0.86	2.7	1.2		0.87	3.1	1.0		0.75	2.2	0.7		.001
5. Caring for these patients takes a lot of time.	0.86	2.4	1.2		0.86	2.7	1.3		0.74	2.1	0.7		.021
6. These patients are frequently demanding, impatient, and get angry.	0.84	2.4	1.1		0.86	2.6	1.1		0.74	2.3	0.7		.064
7. Knowledge of how often I need to see these patients.	0.84	2.3	1.1		0.86	2.3	1.4		0.72	2.0	0.9		.160
8. Your skills at dealing with these patients when they are angry or demanding.	0.84	2.8	1.0		0.86	2.7	1.0		0.73	2.3	0.7		.016
9. Your safety at dealing with these patients when they are angry or demanding.	0.84	2.5	1.1		0.86	2.4	1.2		0.72	2.0	0.9		.005
10. Your ability to deal confidently with patients who want early refills.	0.84	2.7	0.9		0.86	2.6	1.1		0.71	2.2	0.8		.008
11. Your ability to set limits with patients who demand extra attention and time.	0.84	2.8	1.0		0.86	2.8	1.0		0.73	2.2	0.7		.001
<b>Overall</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>		<b>0.88</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>7.9</b>		<b>0.76</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>		<b>.001</b>

<sup>a</sup> Scores range from 1 to 5. Lower scores (closer to 1) indicate less agreement and higher scores (closer to 5) indicate more agreement with the question.

<sup>b</sup> Scores range from 0 to 5. Lower scores (closer to 0) indicate less agreement and higher scores (closer to 5) indicate more agreement with the question.

<sup>c</sup> Scores range from 0 to 4. Lower scores (closer to 0) indicate minor concern and higher scores (closer to 4) indicate greater concern.

\**P*-value for the one-way ANOVA of the three time periods (baseline, 3 months, and 9 months).