

What Can I Do Now?

Preparing For REMS

Coordinate my office/clinic/pharmacy

- > Review current standard operating procedures for REMS compliance
- > Review staff roles, train staff, and monitor their performance
- > Prepare for potential new documentation requirements

Enhance communication with my patients

- > Educate them about Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) and the potential implications (eg, there may be changes in processes for dispensing their medications)
- > Assess their ability to understand the requirements of the REMS
- > Actively educate them on the risks of opioid medications—overdose, abuse, misuse, and diversion—and explain that REMS are designed to minimize those risks while maintaining access
- > Advise them on safe storage and disposal of opioid medications

Ensure that I

- > Know the federal and state regulations on prescribing opioids
- > Review my current prescribing habits to ensure standards of care continue
- > Evaluate my current patient communications
- > Talk to my colleagues and peers to find out how they are getting ready
- > Stay informed via
 - FDA - www.fda.gov
 - DEA - www.justice.gov/dea
 - Federation of State Medical Boards - www.fsmb.org
 - American Academy of Pain Medicine - www.painmed.org
 - American Pain Foundation - www.painfoundation.org
 - American Pain Society - www.ampainsoc.org
 - American Academy of Pain Management - www.aapainmanage.org
 - American Pharmacists Association - www.pharmacist.com
 - American Society of Pain Educators - www.paineducators.org
 - American Society of Health System Pharmacists - www.ashp.org
 - American Chronic Pain Association - www.theacpa.org
 - **Ready for REMSSM** - www.ReadyForREMS.com

