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The Patient Advocate Pharmacy®

August 24, 2018

State of the States



The Ohio Medical Board released proposed **rules** for the prescribing of opioids in the treatment

of acute and chronic pain. The proposed rules require that a prescriber consider non-medication and non-opioid treatment first, conduct a PDMP check for the patient, complete a functional pain assessment and develop a treatment plan before prescribing any opioid. Prescribers are also required to offer an opioid antagonist prescription in certain situations, including where an opioid prescription exceeds 80 MEDs. The Board will hold a public hearing on the proposal in September.



Next Thursday, the Kentucky Medical Advisory Committee and Regulatory Advisory

Committee will hold a joint meeting to hear from the Tennessee Workers' Comp Medical Director, Dr. Robert Snyder. Snyder is presenting on the Tennessee workers' comp formulary and treatment guidelines to the committees charged with developing Kentucky's formulary and guidelines. The Committee has already heard presentations from ODG and ACOEM and are expected to make a selection in early September in hopes of meeting the January 1, 2019 deadline created by the passage of **HB 2**.



This week, the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) **recommended** the seventh consecutive reduction in workers' comp premiums in New Hampshire. The Insurance Department will hold a public hearing on the recommended 14% reduction in October.



The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is **proposing** a reduction in manufacturing quota of opioid medications for the third year in a row. The DEA proposal reduces production of the six most commonly misused opioids, including oxycodone and fentanyl, by an average of 10%. In 2017, the DEA proposed a 35% reduction.

State of the States



Following on the heels of the federal lawsuit against Chicago Mayor Rahm Emmanuel and Alderman Ed

Burke for inappropriate influence of the city's workers' comp system, the Chicago Tribune posted an **editorial** calling for Burke to remove himself as the administrator of the city's workers' comp system. The editorial applauds the lawsuit and calls on voters to hold all elected officials accountable for the longstanding decision to allow an alderman to administer the city's costly and cumbersome workers' comp system. Rahm Emmanuel is up for re-election in February 2019.



Last week, Texas Governor, Greg Abbott, **announced** an executive order requiring all state agencies,

including the Department of Workers' Compensation, to run all new regulations by the Governor prior to releasing them for comment to the public. The Governor's order is in contrast to the current process, and the process of most other states, and many fear that not only will it unnecessarily delay regulation implementation but gives the Governor unwarranted power of regulatory bodies.

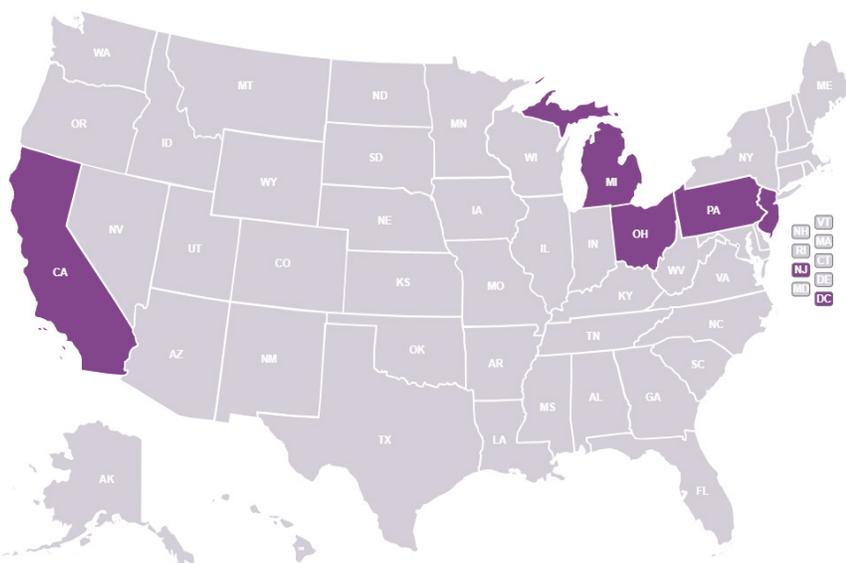
Where in the U.S.A. is Danielle?

Danielle will be on vacation next week.

States in Session

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■ In Session ■ Out of Session ■ In Special Session



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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