

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: January 21, 2022
ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Update on the Revision to the Guidelines on
Prescribing Controlled Substances
STAFF CONTACT: Susan Cady, AGPA (Executive Staff)

REQUESTED ACTION

This report is intended to provide Members with an update on the revision to the guidelines on prescribing controlled substances.

TASK FORCE

On November 15, 2021, the Executive staff met with the Task Force Committee members to review and discuss the additional family practice physicians recruited to serve as prospective subject matter experts. A discussion about the composition of the panel was held and the Task Force approved the recommendations made by Executive staff to appoint five physicians to serve as subject matter experts on this project.

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS

Executive staff met with each of the subject matter experts between November 29th and December 13th to discuss the process to be used to update the guidelines and the tentative timeframes for each phase of the project. The experts were asked to identify the sections of the guidelines they would be interested in reviewing and working with staff to update. Assignments were distributed to the experts on January 3, 2022. Staff requested that the subject matter experts perform the initial review on their assignments by January 24, 2022. As the initial reviews are completed and returned, staff has started drafting the updated sections. As each section is updated, staff will return the material to the assigned expert for review.

Staff plans to have a draft of the updated guidelines available for review by the Task Force by the end of February. Once the draft document has been reviewed and tentatively approved by the Task Force, an Interested Parties meeting will be scheduled to obtain feedback and input from stakeholders.