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Subject: FW: Ethics of Pain Management for the Primary Care Provider
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From: PainEDU.org [mailto:info@painedu.ccsend.com] **On Behalf Of** PainEdu Newsletter
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 5:32 PM
To: Lauren Walker
Subject: Ethics of Pain Management for the Primary Care Provider

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PainEDU.org Newsletter

IMPROVING PAIN TREATMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

VOLUME 107, NUMBER 1

PainEDU is an educational resource for clinicians who treat patients with chronic pain.

Please help us find chronic pain patients for a study on making opioid medication safer.

Inflexxion, Inc., which produces and maintains PainEDU.org, is investigating ways to promote the safe use, storage, and disposal of pain medication to reduce diversion and overdose. We are looking for adults who have chronic pain and have been taking opioids for 3 months or longer. Participants will earn up to \$60 for completing the study requirements. **Please post this flyer** in your waiting room, and encourage your eligible patients to participate. If you have questions, please [email research coordinator Kim McHugh](#).

This week's features:

Help us improve PainEDU!

We'd like to understand how you think about your role in caring for patients with chronic pain. Would you be willing to spend 10 minutes answering a brief survey online? Your answers will help us focus PainEDU to better meet your needs. [You can access the survey here](#).

Spotlight Interview: Michael Schatman, PhD, CPE

According to Michael Schatman, PhD, CPE, executive director of the Foundation for Ethics in Pain Care, *"The two most important ethical or moral imperatives for primary care providers when considering their practice of pain management are:*

- *accepting their obligation to treat patients with pain, and*
- *accepting that it is time-consuming and challenging to treat persons with chronic pain."*

In this **Spotlight Interview**, Dr. Schatman explains what it means to treat pain ethically and why he believes the best setting for the ethical treatment of chronic pain is primary care.

Difficult conversations: Early requests for medication refill

When a patient on long-term opioid therapy asks for an early refill, it's a signal that something's amiss, but it may not be obvious exactly what is wrong. "Understanding the 'why' will help you address the underlying problem," writes pain and addiction expert Ilene Robeck, M.D. "If you can't figure out the 'why' you may need to consider whether or not you should keep the patient on opioid therapy." Part of Dr. Robeck's series on *Difficult Conversations*, **this article** addresses how to uncover what's really

Dr. Robert's series on *Difficult Conversations*, [this article](#) addresses how to uncover what's really happening when a patient runs out of opioids too soon.

What would you like to see on PainEDU in 2013? [Email us your thoughts](#) on what would be most useful for you for treating patients with chronic pain in the coming year.

New to PainEDU?

Welcome to our new subscribers from the painACTION for Healthcare Professionals newsletter! On PainEDU.org, you'll find information and resources tailored to the needs of front-line clinicians who treat patients with chronic pain. Each week in the PainEDU.org Newsletter, we highlight new and topical articles, interviews, and tools from the [PainEDU website](#), and related patient-education materials from [painACTION](#).

painACTION ACTIONSteps: 12 Medication Safety Resources for Your Patients

ACTIONSteps are concise, single-sheet handouts designed to help you teach your patients about managing their medications safely; the handouts can help facilitate communication on these topics.

Each of these handouts gives your patients valuable information about a different aspect of medication safety. *How to safely start a new medication* lists the questions patients should ask about any new medicine before they leave your office. It also explains how to watch for side effects and when to report them to you or another healthcare provider.

Download [ACTIONStep #1: How to safely start a new medication](#) or, [download the entire set of 12 ACTIONSteps](#).

News and Resources

Remember to [check this page on our website](#) to find the latest pain news, as well as links to other resources.

What clinicians are saying about us:

"I encourage all our pain resource nurses to read the articles on PainEDU.org. It's a great jumping off point for them to begin increasing their knowledge of pain management and build their skills. I'm also strongly encouraging that each of our incoming internal medicine residents receive a copy of the PainEDU Manual and register for PainEDU."

Lee H. Stringer, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacist | Surgical Service | Acute Pain Service Billings Clinic Billings, MT

To Visit the PainEDU website, go to <http://www.painedu.org>

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