

Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback – Management of Acute and Chronic Pain *Individual Conversation Protocol*

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Structure

CDC will be hosting phone-based and/or virtual individual conversations with residents of Birmingham, Alabama; Boise, Idaho; Eugene, Oregon; Jeffersonville, Indiana; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. These will be dialogues during which the project team will listen to each personal perspective and experience related to the themes described below. Although each individual conversation will address all three themes, there will not be a uniform set of questions asked in each conversation.

Themes to Be Explored

CDC invites input specifically on topics focused on using or prescribing opioid pain medications, non-opioid medications, or non-pharmacological treatments (e.g., exercise therapy or cognitive behavioral therapy). These topics are:

- Experiences managing pain, which might include benefits, risks, and/or harms of the pain management options listed above.
- Experiences choosing among the pain management options listed above, including considering factors such as each option’s accessibility, cost, benefits, and/or risks.
- Experiences getting information needed to make pain management decisions.

INDIVIDUAL CONVERSATION PROTOCOL

PARTICIPANTS

1-on-1 Conversations (per location)

Up to 40 patients, family members and/or caregivers, healthcare providers residing in each geographic site

AGENDA (90 min.)

Introductions & Overview (15 min.)

- Facilitators welcome participant
- Explain goals & process of conversation
- Emphasize spirit of session
- Reiterate consent

One-on-One Discussion (65 min.)

- Will follow natural conversation patterns which may take different paths depending on what the participant shares and engages about.
- Example starter questions –
 - o Tell us about a critical situation or moment in your experience with pain (or your patients who have pain, in a healthcare provider).
 - o What is the greatest benefit of using opioids to manage pain, from your perspective?
 - o What is the greatest risk or harm of using opioids to manage pain, from your perspective?
 - o What is your thought process when you're balancing between those risks and benefits?
 - o What are your views on non-opioid options to manage pain?
 - o What do you think other people in your shoes need to know that they may not know already?
 - o If you were seeking out additional information about pain or pain management, who or where would you look to?
 - o Have you heard of CDC's Opioid Prescribing Guideline and, if so, how has it affected you?
 - o What is one thing that could have made your experience managing pain better?

Expectations & Conclusion (10 min.)

- Facilitators thank participant
- Preview next steps