Learning Objectives

1. Analyze state laws and federal regulations pertaining to furnishing, dispensing, and administering controlled substances Schedule II-V for nurse practitioners and physician assistants including the legal and professional relationship between a nurse practitioner, physician assistant and his or her supervising physician.
2. Identify components necessary for proper techniques of charting and prescription writing for Schedule II-V medications consistent with current pharmacy laws.
3. Outline the required components of a furnishing standardized procedure or protocol for schedule II-III controlled substance medications in a patient-specific/specialty protocol or practice in accordance with the Business and Profession Code, Section 2836.1.
4. Describe legal and ethical requirements and ramifications of prescribing controlled substances.
5. Analyze the significance of pain as a public health problem in the United States.
6. Describe California state laws and policies related to the treatment of pain with controlled substances.
7. Identify the negative impact of chronic pain on patient quality of life.
8. Describe the pathophysiology of pain transmission and mechanisms of sensitization.
9. Describe the elements of a comprehensive pain evaluation, including a pain assessment, how to take a detailed substance abuse history, recognition, prevention, and management of acute and chronic pain.
10. Define the concept of universal precautions in pain management, including use of informed consent and patient-provider contracts.
11. Identify key patient education points related to opioid analgesics.
12. Outline the importance of risk stratification in chronic opioid therapy and be familiar clinical tools available for this purpose.
13. Describe the indications and process for assessing response and compliance of the patient to the controlled substance and when to discontinue chronic opioid therapy.
14. Discuss the spectrum of treatment options available for pain management including a comparison of efficacy and safety profiles which influence the selection, usage, clinical rationale for use, and conversion for pharmacological agents.
15. Identify the key components of an H&P, as well as the ongoing assessment of acute vs. chronic pain.
16. Outline the common disorders that may require CS II-V management as well as the provision of appropriate patient education regarding controlled substances (CS II-V) across the lifespan.
17. Identify the relationship between disease and/or condition, pathophysiology and pharmacotherapy/pharmacokinetic management of CS II-V.
18. Discuss how to treat refractory pain.
19. Appreciate the scope of the current prescription drug abuse epidemic in America and its consequences.
20. Assess a controlled substance’s potential for abuse and addition and its psychological aspects.
21. Understand addiction as a chronic, neurobiological disease and factors contributing to its development.
22. Identify the warning signs and symptoms of drug misuse/abuse or addiction, how to interpret their significance, and how to arrange for treatment referral and treatment alternatives when necessary.
23. Describe methods of prescription medication diversion and safeguards for prescribers to prevent diversion.
24. Discuss the symptoms and DSM-IV criteria.
25. Be able to apply the guidelines for management of ADHD with Schedule II Substances medications.
26. Describe how to adjust Schedule II Controlled Substances medications as needed to achieve and to maintain remission of ADHD symptoms.

The stated objectives fulfill the Board of Registered Nursing and the Drug Enforcement Agency requirements for eligibility for controlled substance schedule 2 privileges in the state of California.