

## National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

The number of prescriptions filled for opioid pain relievers has increased dramatically, leading the CDC to identify prescription drug abuse a problem of “epidemic” proportions. To better equip physician assistants and other health professionals against this crisis, the [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) offers two **free online CMEs/CEs**:

- [Safe Prescribing for Pain](#) (1.25 credits) teaches the prevalence of prescription opioid abuse and explores ways to effectively screen for and prevent abuse in patients with pain.
- [Managing Pain Patients Who Abuse Rx Drugs](#) (1.75 credits) identifies the prevalence of opioid addiction and dependence in patients with chronic pain, and assists health care providers in identifying emerging abuse behaviors.