Mandatory education requirement for the continuing education course to include risk of addiction with use of Schedule II controlled substances

(Legislation enacted 2017-2018)

Senate Bill No. 1109 (Bates) Chapter 693 adds “risks of addiction associated with their use” relating to continuing education requirements to furnish Schedule II controlled substances. Chapter 693 effective January 1, 2019 amends Business and Professions Code, section 2836.1 (g)(3) Furnishing Drugs and Devices.

Assembly Bill 1196, (Montanez) Chapter 748 effective January 1, 2004 amended the Business and Profession Code, Section 2836.1 Furnishing Drugs and Devices to include authority for furnishing or “ordering” Schedule II controlled substances under the California Uniform Controlled Substance Act. The Schedule II controlled substance amended into the Business and Professions Code, Section 2836.1 added specialized educational requirements and additional requirements in the nurse practitioners approved Standardized Procedures for practice.

Nurse Practitioners wishing to furnish Schedule II controlled substances are required to complete either a Board of Registered Nursing-approved continuing education course in Schedule II pharmacology which also includes content regarding the risks of addiction associated with the use of Schedule II controlled substances OR successfully completed the required pharmacological content for Schedule II controlled substances including risks of addiction associated with their use in a board-approved nurse practitioner program.

The Board of Registered Nursing requires a minimum 3-hour approved continuing education course or minimum 3-hour Schedule II pharmacology content in a board approved NP educational program. The Board of Registered Nursing is required to verify each nurse practitioner’s completion of the required Schedule II controlled substance continuing education or NP educational program curriculum content.

Each nurse practitioner applying for Schedule II furnishing privileges must submit to the Board:

*Written request for Schedule II furnishing privileges that include your name, address, and nurse practitioner furnishing number.

*Photocopy of the continuing education completion certificate and or NP educational program verification of Schedule II curriculum course content. Include the detailed course outline if requested to do so by the BRN.

Please mail to:

Board of Registered Nursing
Advanced Practice Unit
1747 North Market Blvd., Suite 150
Sacramento, CA. 95834
The Board of Registered Nursing will process your request for Schedule II furnishing privileges upon receipt of documentation regarding the continuing education course or NP educational program curriculum content Schedule II, Risk of Addiction including a detailed course outline, and your written request. The DEA will process all NP applications after accessing the Board's web site to ensure that Schedule II, Risk of Addictions, privileges have been added to your nurse practitioner furnishing number.

**Course Description requirements for Schedule II controlled substances:**
1. Focus on Principles of pharmacology that serves as a foundation for the pharmacotherapeutic management of a patient whose illness, injury, or condition requires evaluation and treatment using schedule II controlled substances.
2. The pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles of Schedule II medications commonly used in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of health care conditions affecting patients across the life span, including risks of addiction associated with the use of schedule II controlled substances.
3. Provide a discussion about standardized procedures or protocols requirements for those patient illnesses, diseases, or injuries a patient-specific protocol for Schedule II and III controlled substances.
4. Address the legal requirements for furnishing controlled substances.

**Minimum Course Objectives for Schedule II controlled substances:**
1. Identify the relationship of the natural history of illness, disease or injury, pathophysiology, and symptomatology to pharmacotherapeutic agents commonly used to treat patients with conditions requiring the use of Schedule II controlled substances, including risks of addiction associated with the use of schedule II controlled substances.
2. Analyze state laws and federal regulations pertaining to furnishing, dispensing, and administering Controlled Substances Schedule II through V medication by nurse practitioner.
3. Identify components necessary for proper techniques of prescription writing for Schedule II through V consistent with Health and Safety Code and Pharmacy law.
4. Outline the required components of a furnishing standardized procedure or protocol for schedule II and III controlled substance medication in a Patient-Specific Protocol in accord with Business and Professions Code, Section 2836.1. The nurse practitioners’ education, experience, and competence to furnish controlled substances must be included.
5. Describe ethical and legal standards and ramifications of prescribing controlled substances.

Schedule III, IV, V controlled substance authority for the furnishing nurse practitioners was granted as a result of SB 816, Chapter 748 effective January 1, 2000. The intent of SB 816, Chapter 748 added “order” and “drug order”. The intent of this legislation was furnishing could now be known as an “order” and could be considered the same as an “order” initiated by the physician. This new law effective January 1, 2000 required the NP who has a furnishing number to obtain a DEA registration number to “order” controlled substances III, IV, V. Furnishing or “ordering” of Schedule III, IV, V controlled substances requires approved Standardized Procedures.