Physicians, nurses, and other practitioners have important roles to play combatting opioid abuse—which may be a new and uncomfortable role for some, but essential to turning the tide. Changing prescribing practices is an urgent need, but not the only thing providers and their organizations can and should do. Health care has multiple roles to play in changing the trajectory of the opioid crisis in the communities they serve, including limiting the supply of prescription opioids in circulation, raising awareness of the risk of opioid addiction, identifying and treating opioid-dependent individuals, and collaborating closely with community efforts.

This half-day training will help medical staff:

• Understand the risks and known benefits of treating pain with opioids as well as federal evidence-based prescribing guidelines
• Provide education on the disease of addiction
• Identify and educate patients at greatest risk for addiction
• Identify patients who are opioid-dependent, provide compassion and care, and refer them to the appropriate agency or community partner
• Understand evidence-based practices used in the treatment of addiction, including medication-assisted therapy
• Be open to new approaches, such as forming partnerships with others in the community to enhance efforts

Questions? Contact Stephanie Goode at 651-213-4869 or sgoode@hazeldenbettyford.org

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