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Hospital Commitment to Prescription Opioid Management

With success in establishing guidelines to standardize opioid medication use and prescribing in emergency departments, and in response to the recent passage of Chapter 52 of the Acts of 2016 (An Act Relative to Substance Use, Treatment, Education, and Prevention); the MHA Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Task Force (SUDPTTF) developed these [hospital guidelines](#) focused on prescription opioid management within hospitals.

The goal of these guidelines is to develop a general standard of practice for providers within a hospital setting, or hospital owned or affiliated clinic or physician practice; for identifying patients at risk of opioid misuse as well as improving treatment by providing alternative options to, or limiting the use of, prescription opioids as appropriate. While the clinical practices for many providers may exceed the recommendations outlined in this document, a secondary goal is to ensure that all prescribers within a hospital setting follow the general set of practices outlined in this guidance.

To that end we are asking each hospital's CEO and CMO to sign this letter demonstrating your facility's commitment to meeting each of the recommendations within the guidelines.

Prescription Opioid Management Commitment:

- _____ Hospital, in working with internal departments, commits to adopting the guidelines, providing necessary resources for guideline implementation as appropriate, supporting providers with appropriate prescribing practices and prescription misuse risk identification, and supporting improved pain management treatment in accordance with the principles defined in the MHA SUDPTTF Guidelines for Prescription Opioid Management within Hospitals.
- In addition, we further commit to working with our hospital residency and fellowship programs, as applicable, to ensure that those direct care specialties that prescribe opioid medications adopt the Medical Residency Program Core Opioid Prescribing Competencies as developed and agreed upon by Massachusetts Hospital Association, Massachusetts Medical Society, Coalition for Boston Teaching Hospitals, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to require residents and fellows attend or participate in at least one annual meeting or training on the competencies and their adoption into practice, and ensure that residents and fellows complete medical education courses on substance use disorder and pain management consistent with themes required of licensed prescribing physicians.

Hospital: _____ Date: _____

CEO Signature: _____

CMO Signature: _____