



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

Prescription Drug Abuse: A Policy Position Paper From the American College of Physicians

Prescription drug abuse is found throughout all aspects of the U.S. population and is a serious public health problem. Physicians and other health professionals with prescribing privileges are entrusted with the authority to use medications in the treatment of their patients and therefore have an important role in helping to ensure safe and effective use of this treatment option and the deterrence of its abuse. This paper is intended to provide guidance to prescribers and policymakers regarding measures to effectively address the problem of prescription drug abuse.

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