



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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MEDCHI STATEMENT ON INITIATIVE TO STOP OPIOID ABUSE

BALTIMORE, October 26, 2018 — Earlier this week the White House issued a statement about the initiative to stop opioid abuse and reduce drug supply and demand. The statement laid out the goals of the Opioid Initiative:

- Educate Americans about the dangers of opioid misuse and curbing over-prescription.
- Decrease international and domestic illicit drug supply chains devastating American communities.
- Help those struggling with addiction through evidence-based treatment and recovery support services.
- Support and advance past congressional actions which include the SUPPORT Act, Institutions for Mental Diseases Care Act, STOP Act, CRIB Act, CARA 2.0 Act, ONDCP Reauthorization, Improving Recovery and Reunifying Families Act, and the CAREER Act.

Past President and MedChi Opioid Task Force Chair, Dr. Gary Pushkin states “I am pleased to see the funds for prevention, treatment and recovery. As physicians have been working to safely treat patients with chronic pain and addiction, the MedChi Opioid Task Force has been aggressively advocating for safe prescribing by physicians. We have seen a decrease in the number of opioids prescribed and are working with state officials to promote ongoing efforts to make things safer for all Marylanders.”

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. Formed in 1799, it is still the largest physician organization in Maryland today. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.