



American College of  
Preventive Medicine

### **Policy Recommendation for the Support for Use of Abuse-Deterrent Technology**

WHEREAS, the abuse of prescription painkillers is having a devastating effect on public health and safety in communities across the country<sup>1</sup>.

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drug overdose deaths now surpass traffic crashes in the number of deaths caused by injury in the United States. In 2011, an average of about 110 people in the United States died from drug overdose every day<sup>2</sup>.

WHEREAS, opioid pain relievers are the most widely misused or abused controlled prescription drugs (commonly referred to as "CPDs") and are involved in most CPD-related overdose incidents<sup>3</sup>.

WHEREAS, the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Food and Drug Administration have for many years strongly encouraged manufacturers of opioid drug products to develop abuse-deterrent formulations designed to prevent or discourage the abuse or misuse of those products.

WHEREAS, in response, several opioid drug manufacturers have developed abuse-deterrent formulations.

WHEREAS, helping to reduce the level of abuse of opioid drug products is dependent on the widespread adoption of new technologies and approaches to the safer formulation of these drugs; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That ACPM support the use of abuse-deterrent technology by manufacturers of pain medication and work with manufacturers to address any access to care issues that may arise due to use of this new technology.

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#### References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prescription Painkiller Overdoses in the US. CDC Vital Signs. November 2011
2. Warner M, Chen LH, Makuc DM, Anderson RN, Miniño AM. Drug poisoning deaths in the United States, 1980–2008. NCHS data brief, no 81: National Center for Health Statistics. 2011.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Policy Impact: Prescription Painkiller Overdoses. (2014) Available from URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalafety/rxbrief/>.