

Opioid therapy for chronic pain, both cancer and nonmalignant, has increased dramatically during the past two decades. Clinicians are aware that along with this increase in use is a degree of prescription opioid misuse and diversion. The testing of urine and other body fluids and tissues to monitor opioid therapy compliance has become an increasingly accepted, recommended and important component of good pain management. This special issue devoted to drug testing for opioid analgesic therapy has been edited and compiled by Dr. Gary Reisfield. Gary is a specialist in Pain Management, Addiction Medicine and Palliative Medicine and an acknowledged authority on the role, limitations and benefits of drug testing. The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Editorial Board of the *Journal of Opioid Management* express their thanks to Gary for this special issue.

Paul Alexander Sloan, MD
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Opioid Management

A LEADER IN THE FIELD...

I have been fortunate as Publisher of *Journal of Opioid Management* (JOM) to meet many very exceptional people. They range from JOM authors, Editorial Review Board members and our Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Paul A. Sloan to International Conference on Opioids (ICOO) conference committee chairs, committee members and presenters. These are leaders in the

field of medicine who have devoted their lives to improving the human condition as well as moving forward the mission of JOM and ICOO. Many of them have contributed to this special issue as authors or reviewers. Many are listed on the front cover and I thank them for their contribution to this special issue.

Many months ago, I was reviewing video from a recent ICOO conference on Urine Drug Testing (UDT) presented by Dr. Gary Reisfield and was amazed at his ability to present this complex topic in a clear and concise way. Post conference surveys detailed the need for more education on the proper utilization of UDT in opioid therapies. While I am not sure of the genesis, it was suggested that we present a special issue of JOM that dealt with the intricacies of UDT and given the recent federal investigations, the business and legal aspects too.

But who to lead the special issue? The answer was on the video and when asked, Dr. Reisfield stepped right up to the plate. After many months, about a thousand emails, reviews, revisions, re-reviews and countless hours we are pleased to present this special issue.

To Dr. Reisfield, I offer my sincere thanks for a job well done. Your dedication to this special issue has been boundless.

Richard A. DeVito, Jr.
Publisher
Journal of Opioid Management



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