



National Association of State  
Controlled Substances Authorities

**NASCSA Resolution 2014-04**  
**October 2014**  
**Savannah, Georgia**

**A Resolution Encouraging State Healthcare Licensing Boards and Professional Healthcare Associations to Advocate Judicious Prescribing of Opioid Analgesics and Other Controlled Substances Following Medical and Dental Procedures or Upon Patient Discharge**

**WHEREAS**, opioid analgesics and other controlled substances are essential for the treatment of pain and other indications; and

**WHEREAS**, opioid analgesics and other controlled substances have potential for abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, prescription drug abuse is an acute public health problem; and

**WHEREAS** practitioners often prescribe opioid analgesics and other controlled substances for time periods longer than medically indicated; and

**WHEREAS**, unused opioid analgesics and other controlled substances often end up in unsecured medical cabinets accessible by patients' family members and visitors and can be misused for non-legitimate medical purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, inappropriately prescribed, overprescribed and unused opioid analgesics and other controlled substances contribute to the prescription drug abuse problem;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities ("NASCSA") hereby encourages the appropriate prescribing of opioid analgesics and other controlled substances to patients following medical and dental procedures and upon patient discharge from hospitals and other medical facilities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NASCSA encourages state healthcare licensing boards and professional healthcare associations to advocate that practitioners appropriately prescribe opioid analgesics and other controlled substances in these circumstances and to counsel their patients about securely storing and safely disposing of such medication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rafael O.' followed by a horizontal line.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

Date: October 24, 2014