This seminar is designed to raise awareness of the current nationwide opioid epidemic with primary care physicians treating patients with chronic pain and nurses managing care of patients with chronic pain. Topics will include the current state of opioid prescribing in United States and Texas; guidelines for prescribing opioids; and an overview of DEA requirements regarding the handling of controlled substances pursuant to Federal regulations.

GAP ANALYSIS
There is an epidemic in the United States that involves opioid prescriptions. The opioid overdose epidemic is one of our Nation's most pervasive drug issues. In cities and towns all across this country, approximately 2 million Americans have a substance abuse disorder involving prescription pain relievers or heroin. We have seen data that supports that this is a crisis that is worsening. Since 2008, drug overdoses have increasingly been the leading cause of accidental death in the United States, annually eclipsing fatalities from motor vehicle accidents. There were 72,000 drug related deaths in 2017, or approximately 197 per day. This problem can be attributed to many things, there are some publications that suggest that the overprescribing of prescription opioids and the failure to properly monitor patients seeking treatment have contributed to this epidemic.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES
• Discuss and gain additional insight of the nationwide problem involving opioid prescriptions
• Discuss an outlook on prescription opioids in Texas
• Discuss the Texas rules and regulations for treating chronic pain
• Discuss the regulatory responsibilities required by the Drug Enforcement Administration
• Describe the complex iatrogenic, cultural and economic factors leading to this epidemic of opioid pain reliever addiction and opioid related overdose deaths and how it is presently evolving into a heroin epidemic
• Discuss enacting health care provider and community based public health strategies

INTENDED AUDIENCE
The Conference is designed for Primary Care Physicians, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatricians, Obstetricians, Gynecologists, Neurologists, Oncologists, Endocrinologists, Psychiatrists, Intensivists, Cardiologists, Emergency Medicine Pulmonologists and Surgeons. This Conference is also designed for Nurses and Advanced Practice Nurses. This content is also appropriate for Advance Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Nurses that provide direct patient care.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) through the joint providership of DHR Health and The Drug Enforcement Administration. DHR Health is accredited by TMA to provide continuing medical education for physicians. DHR Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 6 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.