This workshop is intended for healthcare providers whose patients suffer from pain and treatment considers or includes controlled substances for pain relief.

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QUESTIONS:
Contact Lisa Downing at 503.352.2663 or lisa.downing@pacificu.edu
With the current medical and legislative controversies around use of opioids in chronic pain patients, many healthcare professionals puzzle to balance appropriately treating pain and increasing quality of life, versus overmedicating or inappropriately medicating patients with disastrous consequences. This seminar clarifies misconceptions around the mechanisms and signs of tolerance, addiction, and dependence, reviews current laws and regulations regarding controlled substance prescribing including the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and deliberates on how to make the decision to treat with an opioid. After attending this seminar, participants should be able to better understand the mechanism by which opioid addiction occurs, the objective data of opioid use and law in the Pacific Northwest, how to protect their practice while improving patient care, and should be able to inform their clinical decision making by an increased understanding of risk factors and protocols for opioid treatment.

**COURSE PRESENTERS |**

Amber Buhler, PhD  Associate Professor  
Mike Millard, RPh, MS Assistant Dean for Clinical Services, Assistant Professor  
Andrew Mendenhall, MD Medical Director of Hazelden Beaverton

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES |**

- Identify the physiological basis and presentation of tolerance and dependence versus addiction phenomena
- Recognize general opioid mechanism of action, and predictable effects on development of tolerance and dependence
- Assess pharmacokinetic factors underlying varied addiction risk potential of commonly prescribed opioids
- Evaluate symptoms of tolerance and dependence versus addiction in a case study
- Identify the current laws and regulations surrounding opioid prescribing in Oregon and Washington
- Locate resources you might use to safely support an opioid prescription
- Recognize the impact current laws and regulations have had on the prevalence of under-medication
- Consider the impact these regulations have on the use of methadone in the Pacific Northwest
- Evaluate the effect these regulations have on curbing opioid abuse
- Contemplate the increase of heroin use rates in the Pacific Northwest
- Evaluate personal biases related to prescribing or dispensing of opioids
- Recognize patient right-to-treatment of chronic pain
- Demonstrate familiarity with practice guidelines and proper documentation of opioid treatment
- Evaluate factors which influence the clinical decision to prescribe an opioid or not
- Assess risks and benefits of opioid prescribing in a case study
- Address pain treatment in a patient you suspect of abusing or diverting opioids

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**NOTE:** Electronic handouts will be available prior to the conference. Check the box below to obtain a printed copy day of conference. $5 fee applies.

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Questions? Lisa Downing or call 503.352.2663