

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## <u>Indiana State Medical Association launches app to help physicians</u> address opioid epidemic in Indiana, meet education mandate

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) today announced the launch of a free mobile app that gives controlled-substance prescribers quick, convenient access to opioid-related education required by a new Indiana law.

The app, called "ISMA Online", will enable physicians to work toward fulfilling continuing medical education (CME) requirements easily through video courses, archived webinars and a podcast series. The app was created partly in response to <u>Indiana Senate Enrolled Act 225</u>. The law, passed last year, requires any Indiana-licensed health care practitioner applying for or renewing a controlled substance registration (CSR) to have completed two hours of CME on opioid prescribing and abuse during the previous two years. The requirement takes effect July 1 and sunsets July 1, 2025.

It is widely known that controlled-substance abuse has created a serious public health epidemic that requires coordinated medical, behavioral, educational and policy changes. Ensuring that all health care providers have access to the most up-to-date information about prescribing and treatment guidelines is a top priority for ISMA.

"We're proud to be able to provide this app as a resource to all Indiana physicians," said ISMA President Stacie Wenk, DO. "This app changes the way they are able to earn these critical requirements. It makes earning CME easy, so they can continue solving the opioid epidemic we're experiencing throughout the state and providing care to patients."

The ISMA Online app is part of the organization's comprehensive efforts to educate physicians about the opioid crisis using innovative technology. It will deliver content and allow the learner to answer self-assessment questions. When a question is answered incorrectly, learners will be directed to resources to see what they missed and why. The app will provide feedback in the form of their scores, progress in completing the courses and how they are performing compared with their peers.

The ISMA Online app and CME credits earned through its opioid-related content are free, thanks to a grant from the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation. The ISMA Online app can be



downloaded by searching for "ISMA Online" in app stores or at <a href="https://www.ismanet.org/MobileLearning">www.ismanet.org/MobileLearning</a>.

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## **ABOUT THE INDIANA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

The Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) is the largest physician organization in Indiana and is dedicated to promoting the well-being of doctors and their patients. Learn more about ISMA by visiting <a href="https://www.ismanet.org">www.ismanet.org</a>.

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