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Opioid crisis

The ADA is committed to ending the opioid crisis that has been devastating families and communities.

In Congress

December 12, 2019—[Letter urging House leaders to schedule a floor vote on S. 2740, the Over-the-Counter Drug Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act of 2019](#) (PDF).

October 30, 2019—[Letter urging members of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to favorably report the Over-the-Counter Drug Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act of 2019](#). (PDF)

June 18, 2019—[Letter thanking the House Committee on Oversight and Reform for holding a hearing on opioid treatment and the Patient and Communities Act](#) (PDF).

January 8, 2019—[Letter thanking House leaders for scheduling a floor vote on the Over-the-Counter Monograph Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act of 2019](#) (PDF).

September 12, 2018—[Letter expressing support for the Senate substitute amendment to H.R. 6, the Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018](#) (PDF).

June 12, 2018—[Letter thanking House leaders for bringing several bills to the floor to address the opioid crisis](#) (PDF).

June 6, 2018—[Letter urging the Senate Committee on Finance to consider several proposals when marking up legislation to address the opioid crisis](#) (PDF).

May 22, 2018—[Letter urging the House Judiciary Committee to consider several proposals when marking up legislation to address the opioid crisis](#) (PDF).

- View recommendations
- May 16, 2018**—[Letter urging the House Committee on Energy and Commerce to favorably report H.R. 2682, the Combating Opioid Abuse for Care in Hospitals \(COACH\) Act](#) (PDF).
- May 14, 2018**—[Letter urging the House Ways and Means Committee to include dentists in any activities authorized by H.R. 2682, the Combating Opioid Abuse for Care in Hospitals \(COACH\) Act](#) (PDF).
- April 23, 2018**—[Letter urging the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to favorably report S. 2682, the Combating Opioid Abuse for Care in Hospitals \(COACH\) Act](#) (PDF).
- April 23, 2018**—[Letter urging the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to favorably report S. 2315, the Counter Drug Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act](#) (PDF).
- March 30, 2018**—[Letter informing the Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) about the ADA's new opioid prescribing policy](#) (PDF).
- March 26, 2018**—[Letter informing the House Committee on Energy and Commerce about the ADA's new opioid prescribing policy](#) (PDF).
- March 26, 2018**—[Letter informing the House Committee on Ways and Means about the ADA's new opioid prescribing policy](#) (PDF).
- March 26, 2018**—[Letter informing the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions about the ADA's new opioid prescribing policy](#) (PDF).
- October 25, 2017**—[Statement for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce hearing on "Federal Efforts to Combat Opioid Abuse: A Status Update on CARA and Other Initiatives," held October 25, 2017](#) (PDF).
- October 5, 2017**—[Statement for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions hearing on "The Federal Response to the Opioid Crisis," held October 5, 2017](#) (PDF).
- September 28, 2017**—[Letter \(PDF\) to Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Shelley Moore Capito regarding partial fill prescription of controlled substances](#) (PDF).
- August 7, 2017**—[Letter to Sen. Joe Manchin regarding dentistry's efforts to keep prescription opioid pain medications from becoming a source of harm.](#) (PDF)

Federal agencies

December 16, 2022—[Coalition letter urging the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\) Prescribers Support System for Opioid Therapies \(PCSS-O\) program.](#) (PDF)

August 26, 2019—[Comments addressing how the Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) can balance legitimate medical use of controlled substances, including opioids, while also preventing diversion and abuse.](#) (PDF)

April 1, 2019—[Comments on the draft report of the Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force](#) (PDF)

January 15, 2019—[Comments on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's \(USPSTF\) Draft Research Plan for Prevention of Opioid Use Disorder](#) (PDF)

October 9, 2018—[Letter thanking the U.S. Surgeon General for issuing Facing Addiction in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Opioids](#) (PDF)

May 22, 2018—[Letter urging the Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force to address management of addiction in its work](#) (PDF)

March 30, 2018—[Letter informing the Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) about the ADA's new opioid prescription requirements](#) (PDF)

March 16, 2018—[Comments in response to the Food and Drug Administration's \(FDA\) request for information on questions for the agency's Opioid Policy Steering Committee \(OPSC\)](#) (PDF)

July 17, 2017—[Comments on the Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) draft Blueprint for Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioids](#) (PDF)

September 6, 2016—[Comments responding to a Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) request for information on how federal opioid analgesic prescriber education and training activities can be improved](#) (PDF)

Media Inquiries

Current policies

View the ADA's policies on substance use disorders, including opioid abuse and safe prescribing.

Practice resources

Review the latest requirements and model practices for prescribing opioids safely.

For patients

Learn what to ask your dentist about prescription pain medications.

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