

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY RESOLUTION

2 Implementation of VDH Opioid Rules

3 *Submitted by Ed Haak, D.O.*4 *for adoption at VMS Annual Meeting on November 4, 2017*5
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7 Whereas, The Vermont Department of Health adopted updated Prescribing Opioids for Pain
8 and Vermont Prescription Monitoring Program rules on July 1, 2017 (“the Rules”); and
910 Whereas, Vermont prescribers are attempting to legally, ethically and morally adhere to the
11 new Rules without patients suffering and medical providers being targeted by the Vermont
12 Board of Medical Practice if they are identified as outliers; and
1314 Whereas, Vermont prescribers are working toward adhering to the Rules in a manner that is
15 both ethically and clinically appropriate including, if needed, tapering patients off of, or
16 lowering doses of opioids over an appropriate period of time, using the modalities available to
17 the patients and prescribers; now therefore be it:
1819 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society will urge the Vermont Department of**
20 **Health and Vermont Board of Medical Practice to meet with a Vermont Medical Society**
21 **Representative(s) on a regular basis to discuss implementation of the Rules and any**
22 **potential concerns, including general non-compliance and considered corrective actions;**
23 **and be it further**
2425 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society will urge the Vermont Department of**
26 **Health and Vermont Board of Medical Practice to pursue alternatives to disciplinary**
27 **action, such as educational outreach, for any prescriber attempting in good faith to**
28 **comply with the Rules; and be it further**
2930 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society will urge the Vermont Department of**
31 **Health to continue to use Vermont Prescription Monitoring Program data as a clinical**
32 **tool and resist attempts to use the data for law enforcement purposes aimed at**
33 **prescribers.**