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## **Pain Management: Optimizing Drug Therapy**

### **Activity Description:**

This activity will address the important role of pharmacists in treating neuropathic pain. Potential treatment options and the process in identifying the most appropriate medication for your patients will be discussed.

### **Learning Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this activity, pharmacists should be better able to

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the presenting features and overall pain management treatment guidelines for patients with acute versus chronic pain syndromes.
2. Provide recommendations regarding the role, dosing, expected onset of action, anticipated efficacy and monitoring parameters of simple analgesics, different opioids and selected adjuvants in the management of acute pain syndromes and chronic pain syndromes.
3. List four classes of medications and representative examples used to treat neuropathic pain and be able to formulate a treatment plan using each of the four classes of medications as monotherapy, noting the time needed to determine drug efficacy and pertinent monitoring parameters.
4. Recognize the patient/chronic pain syndrome which can receive the greatest potential benefit from a trial of opioid therapy and be able to implement this therapeutic approach in a manner that minimizes the risks of drug diversion, addiction and side effects.

### **Target Audience:**

Pharmacists

### **Faculty:**

Gregory Holmquist, Pharm.D.  
Owner & Director, Palliative Care Strategies

### **Faculty Disclosure:**

Gregory Holmquist reports that he is a speaker's bureau member for Alpharma. The speaker has indicated that off-label use of medications will be discussed during his presentation.

### **CPE Credit:**

To obtain 1.0 contact hour of continuing education credit (0.10 CEUs), please complete the exam and evaluation located in your online portfolio. A CE Statement of Credit will be automatically generated upon achieving a passing grade of 70% on the exam and completion of the activity evaluation.

CEI provides you with two (2) opportunities to complete the post-activity exam. You must receive a score of 70% or better to receive your CE Statement of Credit, which will be automatically generated. You may print this CE Statement of Credit; it will also be stored in your online CEI portfolio for you to retrieve a copy at any time.

Activity release date: 01/23/2009

Activity expiration date: 01/23/2012.

**ACPE Logo and Statement:**



The Collaborative Education Institute is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education.

The ACPE Universal Activity Number is # 107-000-09-006-H01-P

0.10 CEUs/1.0 Hrs.

**Activity Format and Requirements:**

This activity includes viewing the PowerPoint presentation while listening to the audio provided. You may print the handouts associated with this program prior to viewing. To ensure the highest quality activity delivery, a reliable high-speed internet connection is required. You may experience problems with some wireless connections where signal strength is variable or low.

**Financial Support:**

This activity has no outside financial support associated with it.

**Activity Fee:**

An activity fee of \$10 will be assessed for grading the exam instrument and issuing the CE Statement of Credit.

**If you would like to purchase this self-study activity, please close this window and proceed to REGISTER.**