

For Immediate Release

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New Jersey Governor Chris Christie to Speak at International Conference on Opioids

Boston, MA June 9, 2017 – New Jersey Governor Chris Christie will speak at the sixth annual **International Conference on Opioids (ICOO 2017)**, Monday, June 12, at the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center at Harvard Medical School.

In late March 2017, Governor Christie was selected as Chairman of the President's Commission on Combating Opioid Abuse, Addiction, and Overdose. He was tasked with leading the commission whose task is to generate actionable recommendations to the president within 90 days of the creation of the commission.

Governor Christie has placed a spotlight on changing the conversation on drug addiction and focusing on treatment for those struggling with addiction. In September 2014, Governor Christie and Pastor Joe A. Carter of Newark's New Hope Baptist Church hosted a summit on drug addiction that served as a call to action and conversation focused on ending the stigma around drug addiction and treatment. Governor Christie has followed through on his commitment to take a smarter and more effective approach focused on treating drug-addicted offenders by signing into law landmark, bipartisan legislation to put in place a state-wide, mandatory drug court program.

The **International Conference on Opioids** is a 2+ day professional conference that explores emerging opioid research and initiatives aimed at improving patient care and reducing risk of abuse. The conference is designed to educate primary care physicians, pain specialists and others with an interest in applied opioid pharmacology and the public health aspects of opioids. Renowned specialists will present new data, essential information and best practices every medical professional should know when prescribing these powerful analgesics for their patients. "There are many ways to look at the challenges of prescribing opioids, says Dr. Michael J. Brennan, conference co-chair. "How do we educate the clinician on the one-on-one interaction with patients, how do we get them to understand the risks and benefits of treatment, and how to monitor patients? It's better education, better education, better education."

The **International Conference on Opioids** (www.opioidconference.org), presented by the **Journal of Opioid Management**, provides a unique forum comprised of renowned specialists in basic science, clinical pain application, and compliance and ethics to address the proper and responsible use of opioids, and the growing problems associated with misuse, abuse and addiction. "We have planned an evidence-based educational conference," says Dr. Paul A. Sloan, conference co-chair, "and look to provide a unique forum on the latest clinical application of opioids, as well as a spirited debate on the future of opioid analgesics."

The Journal of Opioid Management (www.opioidmanagement.com) is the only professional, peer-reviewed journal focused exclusively on the safe and responsible use of opioids. With an editorial staff and review board of the world's leading experts in the field, the Journal provides guidance to physicians and healthcare professionals on how to safely prescribe and responsibly manage these drugs. The Journal of Opioid Management, ISSN 1551-7489, is published bi-monthly by Weston Medical Publishing, LLC.