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### **Statement on Abuse Deterrent Formulations**

There has been much attention paid by healthcare professionals, healthcare organizations, and policy makers around the serious public health problem of misuse and abuse of prescription opioid medications. There is a strong desire by all involved to eliminate this problem to prevent further harm and loss of life.

The American Society for Pain Management Nursing®'s (ASPMN®) mission is to advance and promote optimal nursing care for people affected by pain. All nurses are pain management nurses, and we are healthcare's front lines.

We understand and agree that ensuring safety surrounding prescription medications, particularly those prone to misuse and abuse, is a priority.

While public awareness and provider education about prescription drug abuse remains an important component, products formulated with properties designed to deter intentional abuse, while simultaneously not interfering with the delivery of effective pain relief, present a promising method of dealing with prescription drug abuse.

ASPMN® members are dedicated to pain management, and are committed to reducing the misuse and abuse of opioids while ensuring that there is access to pain medicines for patients in need utilizing quality pain assessments .

We believe that abuse deterrent medications can have a positive impact on reducing the rate of misuse and abuse. While not the only tool, they are one that should be in the arsenal.