



State Of Arizona  
Naturopathic Physicians Medical Board  
"Protecting the Public's Health"

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[www.aznd.gov](http://www.aznd.gov)

Douglas A. Ducey - Governor

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September 1, 2015

### RENEWAL OF MEDICAL LICENSE FOR 2016

As a reminder, your naturopathic medical license must be renewed. **The expiration date is December 31, 2015!**

- [www.aznd.gov](http://www.aznd.gov)
- Use the **Online Payment Processing** link,
- **Print the license**

or download the form, a **complete** renewal application must be supplied to the Board on or before January 1, 2016.

- **Do Not wait until the last minute to renew**

The Board is not responsible for any problems you may encounter while using the online system, or delays in mailing. Late fees will be required if renewing between January 2, 2016 through March 1, 2016. The late fee **cannot** be waived.

- **The license will automatically expire if not renewed by March 1, 2016.**

If you have not renewed your license during the renewal period, you will not be able to practice. You have the option to retire the license should you no longer want to hold an active license in the State of Arizona. As long as your license is current and in good standing, you may choose to retire the license during the renewal process. Should you choose to let the license automatically expire, payment of renewal and late fees for every year the license is not current, would be required as part of the reinstatement application.

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### EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO COMPLIANCE

It is the responsibility of each licensee and certificate holder to be aware of the current laws and rules. Many changes have been made over the last few years, and there are many more to come. Keep up with the latest information by viewing the Board's website; [www.aznd.gov](http://www.aznd.gov)

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### CHANGES IN MEDICAL MARIJUANA CERTIFICATION LAW

Effective July 3, 2015

- **Unprofessional Conduct** A.R.S. § 32-1501(31), (yy) When issuing a written certification as defined in Section 36-2801, failing or refusing to include in the adequate medical records of a patient a copy of all the following:
    - (i) The medical records relied on by the physician to support the diagnosis or confirm the diagnosis of the patient's debilitating medical condition.
    - (ii) The written Certification.
    - (iii) The patient's profile on the Arizona Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program Database.
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### LAWS REGARDING IV ADMINISTRATION

A.R.S. §32-1501(15) Allows for a licensed Naturopathic Physician in the State of Arizona to administer through IV,

- (i) Vitamins, chelation therapy and drugs used in emergency resuscitation and stabilization,
- (ii) Minerals
- (iii) Nutrients.

• Chelation is considered **experimental** and must conform to experimental criteria, with the exception of chelation used in the treatment of heavy metal toxicity. **Heavy metal toxicity or poisoning must be confirmed through appropriate laboratory testing prior to initiation of therapy.**

Pursuant to Unprofessional Conduct Statute; A.R.S. 32-1501(31),(ss) With the exception of heavy metal poisoning, using chelation therapy in the treatment of arteriosclerosis or as any other form of therapy without adequate informed patient consent and without conforming to generally accepted experimental criteria, including protocols, detailed records, periodic analysis of results and periodic review by a medical peer review committee.

- Vitamins, Minerals and Nutrients acceptable for IV administration - **Don't risk your license and the safety of your patient by purchasing products over the internet or through foreign suppliers. As a Health Care Professional, your role is to minimize**

the risk of exposure to counterfeit and other substandard drugs. Make sure the product is manufactured and supplied for intravenous use by a manufacturer registered with the United States Food and Drug Administration or compounded by a pharmacy licensed by the State Board of Pharmacy.

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### **TELEMEDICINE: MEET THE REQUIRED ELEMENTS**

A.R.S. 36-3601 through 36-3604 are specific to telemedicine, and can be found on, [www.azleg.state.az.us](http://www.azleg.state.az.us)

Board Statute A.R.S. 32-1501 Unprofessional Conduct: (ww) Prescribing, dispensing or furnishing a prescription medication or a prescription-only device as defined in section 32-1901 to a person unless the licensee first conducts a physical examination of that person or has previously established a doctor-patient relationship.

- The physical examination may be conducted during a **real-time telemedicine encounter with audio and video capability if the telemedicine audio and video capability meets the elements required by the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services.**

- **Telemedicine cannot be used for the purpose of certifying a patient for medical marijuana**

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### **PAIN MANAGEMENT AND OPIOID PRESCRIBING: RISK OF DEATH**

**Be aware of risks such as Central Nervous System Depression, when prescribing medications in combination such as Opioids, in conjunction with Benzodiazepines and/or Muscle Relaxers.**

The following are a few physician resources. *(you may need to paste the link information into browser)*

- <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/Rx/opioid-prescribing-guidelines.pdf>  
The **Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines** are intended for use by clinicians in primary care and specialty outpatient settings who manage acute and chronic pain that is not occurring at the end of life and not due to malignancy.
  - <http://www.OpioidPrescribing.com>  
Federally funded **Continuing Medical Education courses are available to providers at no charge** (six courses funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and on MedScope (two courses funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse).
  - <http://www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov>  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMhSA)
  - 1-800-662-HELP (4357) National Treatment Referral Helpline
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/VitalSigns/PainkillerOverdoses>  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/state-map>  
White house Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)
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### **THE STATE OF ARIZONA CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM**

- A.R.S. § 36-2606 requires each medical practitioner who is licensed under Title 32 and who possesses a DEA registration to **also possess a current controlled substances prescription monitoring program registration** issued by the Board of Pharmacy. There is no fee to the practitioner for this registration. Arizona's Fifty-second Legislature passed S.B. 1370 creating A.R.S. 32-3219 which **requires Medical Practitioner Regulatory Boards to provide to the Arizona Board of Pharmacy any information necessary to register and provide access to the CSPMP to each medical practitioner. The attached form will provide that necessary information** to provide all medical practitioners with registration and access to the CSPMP. We encourage medical practitioners to use the CSPMP to help treat and evaluate patients.

- **If you are providing Medical Marijuana Certifications: The registration used to pull the PMP MUST be your registration, or it will not register under your name. This is important because DHS and the Pharmacy Board conduct periodic audits. If the number of certifications DHS has on file with your name as the certifying physician, does not equal the amount of times your registration was used to access the CSPMP, the results will be forwarded to the Board and a case will be opened.** These types of complaints can easily be avoided if the appropriate CSPMP registration information is used in association with each patient.

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**Questions can primarily be answered from review of the website. Any further questions you may have should be addressed via email; [gail.anthony@aznd.gov](mailto:gail.anthony@aznd.gov) (Please be aware: Board staff cannot supply legal advice, but can direct you to the appropriate laws and rules.)**

**Thank you for taking the time to review the provided information.**

Gail Anthony, Executive Director  
State of Arizona Naturopathic Physicians Medical Board