

Eight Regulatory Barriers to Opioid Access for Cancer Pain Relief

Countries use a range of regulatory restrictions to limit accessibility of opioids

1

Eligibility Restriction

Patients require a permission or special registration to receive opioid prescriptions

2

Prescriber Restriction

Physicians need to receive a special authority/license to prescribe opioids

3

Emergency Prescriptions

Pharmacists are prohibited from accepting emergency prescription by fax, phone or non medical prescribing

4

Limited Prescription Duration

Maximum number of days opioids are supplied on a single prescription

5

Pharmacist Authority

Pharmacists are prohibited from correcting prescriptions

6

Burden of Prescriptions

Increasing bureaucracy in prescriptions

7

Restricted Dispensing Sites

Limitations for pharmacists in dispensing opioids

8

Negative Languages in Laws

Use of stigmatizing terminology for opioid analgesics in regulations