Lessons from the Front Line:

Caring for Chronic Pain Patients in the Primary Care Setting

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Using Best Practices

Each patient should feel special

Frequent Visits:

Empathy is Essential

Treatment Agreements:

Keep It Simple

Monitoring Function:

"What did you do yesterday?"

Pain Consultation Threshold:

Helpful Yellow Flag



Avoiding Opioids & Limiting Dose

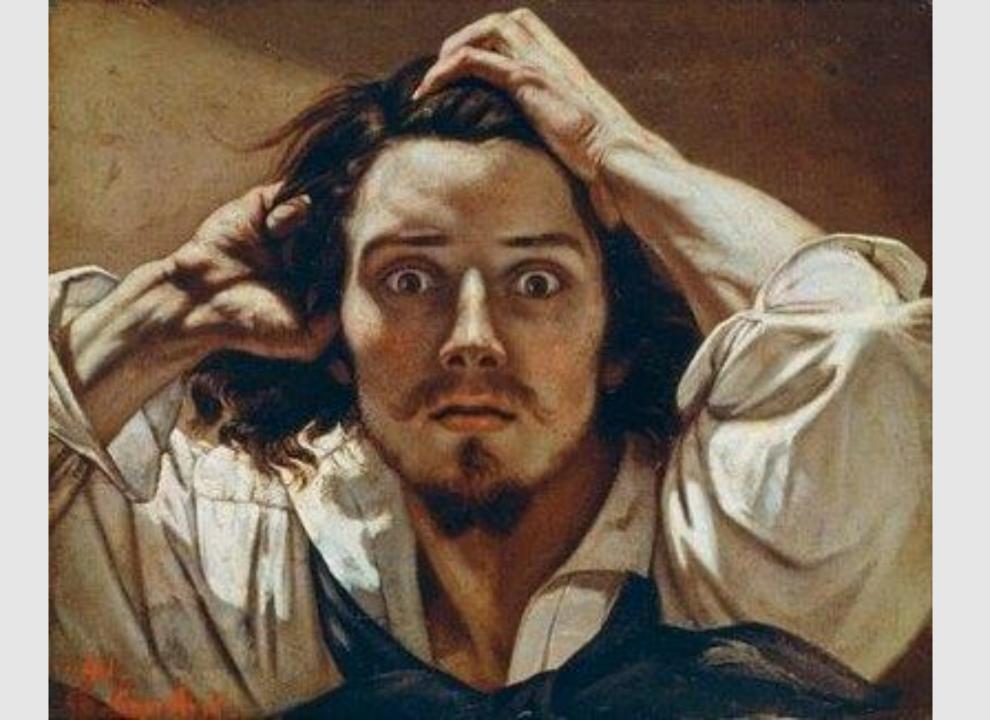
Opioids Are Poison

Hyperalgesia

Withdrawal, Craving

Stigma, Hormones, Constipation Sedation, Accidents, Fractures, Death





Prescription Monitoring Program

The PMP is your friend

New Patients:

Before the first Rx

Existing Patients:

Refills between visits

Covering for partners:

Every Refill

Clinic-wide Auto-refill:

Every 3 months



Communicating About Aberrant Behaviors

The ideal exit strategy: buprenorphine

A relief for both patient and provider

Requires a DATA waiver

Only 3% of primary care physicians have one

It is not difficult to get one

