To: North Carolina Internal Medicine Physicians

Last month, we reported that the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) had made significant revisions to its registration renewal process, which would go into effect on January 1, 2017. Since reporting that change and in response to considerable concern and opposition expressed to the DEA, they have decided to revert back to their existing policy.

One change that will be implemented, however, is the DEA's elimination of second renewal notices being sent by mail. Those reminders will be sent electronically.

The DEA’s “Revised Announcement Regarding Renewal Applications” reads as follows:

Starting January 2017, DEA will no longer send its second renewal notification by mail. Instead, an electronic reminder to renew will be sent to the email address associated with the DEA registration.

At this time, DEA will otherwise retain its current policy and procedures with respect to renewal and reinstatement of registration. This policy is as follows:

- If a renewal application is submitted in a timely manner prior to expiration, the registrant may continue operations, authorized by the registration, beyond the expiration date until final action is taken on the application.

- DEA allows the reinstatement of an expired registration for one calendar month after the expiration date. If the registration is not renewed within that calendar month, an application for a new DEA registration will be required.
Regardless of whether a registration is reinstated within the calendar month after expiration, federal law prohibits the handling of controlled substances or List 1 chemicals for any period of time under an expired registration.

We are hopeful that the DEA’s initial notice and subsequent revision will not create any confusion. We will continue to monitor their notices for any further changes.

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2017 NC Chapter-ACP Annual Scientific Session
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