

Medication Monitoring | Best Practices – *start minimizing risk and maximizing compliance in your practice asap.*

The Problem We Are Helping Solve:

- I. *Prescription Drug Abuse:* The abuse of certain prescription medication continues to rise at an alarming rate. IHR approaches our relationships with our clients as a collaborative effort to safeguard the physician, the patient and the community by monitoring prescription drug treatment in an effort to identify diversion in the early stages.
- II. *Therapeutic Drug Monitoring:* Every patient metabolizes medications at different rates, which necessitates a more personalized approach to maximize the efficacy of therapeutic drugs, including: Antiepileptics, Antiarrhythmics, Antibiotics, Antimanics, Bronchodilators and Immunosuppressants.
- III. *Risk Mitigation:* Increased state of federal scrutiny on narcotics abuse as evidenced by the recent reclassification of hydrocodone to Schedule II status. Closer monitoring of drug interactions reduces likelihood of adverse events that may result in litigation.

Develop your protocol today:

1. *Pre-operative appointment:*
 - a. Prevent and avoid harmful drug interactions while pre or post anesthesia
 - b. Opportunity to do a point of care screen day of surgery if the original test reveals items of concern
 - c. Your anesthesia and hospital colleagues will appreciate the information and will incorporate into their treatment plans
2. *All new patient appointments:*
 - a. Part of the new patient protocol when taking vitals
 - b. Catch possible drug interactions outside of the meds the patient outlines
 - c. Ability to alter your treatment plan or drug prescription selection based upon results
3. *Any time you are going to prescribe a schedule II narcotic:*
 - a. Screen the patient prior to sending in RX.
 - b. If needed, provide patient with a small starter dosage pending toxicology results.
 - c. Ensuring patient compliance through a “trust but verify” methodology.