

# Pain Policy Report Card 2018



## Illinois

Red

### Pain Policy in Illinois

Cancer patients, cancer survivors and other patients with serious illness often need pain treatment. State laws, policies and regulations can affect whether patients get the treatment they need, and the quality of that treatment. The American Cancer Society (ACS) and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), working with the University of Wisconsin, have graded state pain policies as of December 31, 2017. The following are results for our state.

#### Points

#### Policy Definitions & Prescription Limits

4 out of 6

Illinois is behind other states in this category because there is no policy acknowledgement that standard medical practice includes the proper treatment of pain when needed by patients. Additionally, policies around addiction, physical dependence and tolerance are ambiguous or absent.

#### Efforts to Assess & Improve Pain Treatment

3 out of 6

Illinois is lacking in this category and needs to enact policies that promote individual case characteristics when determining pain treatment and establish continuing education for practitioners.

#### Requirements for Treating Pain

0 out of 6

Illinois is lacking in this category and needs to enact policies that promote integrative, individualized pain care in addition to involving the patient in shared decision making along with assessing and monitoring benefits/risks before and during treatment.

#### Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMP)

5 out of 6

Illinois does well in this category requiring submission of dispensing data by the next business day but needs to require prescribers to check the PMP before initially prescribing pain medications.

**Total points**

**12**

**Green** – Matches model policy **Yellow** – Making progress toward model policy **Red** – Matches 50% or less of model policy