

## U.S. PAIN FOUNDATION POSITION STATEMENT – ABUSE DETERRENT FORMULATIONS (ADF)

U.S. Pain Foundation supports Abuse Deterrent Formulation (ADF) as an important step in deterring abuse and creating safer opioids. While prescription opioids are an important component of pain management, abuse and misuse of these products have resulted in too many injuries and deaths across the United States.

By combining physical and pharmacologic barriers to experiencing the euphoric component of opioids, ADFs present a step forward in removing the problematic effect of opioid use and thus its appeal for abuse. As an organization founded by people with pain *for* people with pain, we view ADF technology as a way to help put a stop to the unnecessary abuse of critical medications, while not penalizing those who have legitimate need for pain relief. While ADF medications are not the only tools that should be used to stem the rising tide of prescription drug abuse, the technology should be on the front line in that fight.

Widespread chronic pain and increasing prescription opioid abuse are both realities that affect patients, physicians, and our society. U.S. Pain Foundation works every day to support and advocate for the needs of those living with chronic pain to have access to the medications their doctors prescribe. We also work to make sure those who would, unfortunately, choose to abuse these medications can't do so. We support restricting access to those who are abusing while keeping those who are in compliance away from any penalty or stigma.

More needs to be done with a focus on prevention. Abuse deterrent formulation is a step in the right direction. Insurer barriers should not be placed on these technologies. ADF technology can prevent people from becoming addicted, while simultaneously allowing those who suffer from pain and rely on opioids for relief, to benefit from the medicinal properties of those drugs. Through ADFs, we now have an opportunity to be proactive rather than reactive and to tackle prevention, instead of addiction.