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**What is PACED?**

Pain and Addiction Care in the Emergency Department, or PACED, is an ACEP-governed national accreditation program that seeks to improve pain management for patients in the emergency department. It recognizes the need for prompt, safe, and effective pain management, and treatment for patients in pain and/or addicted to pain medication.

**PACED ACCREDITATION: PURPOSE**

The [**Pain and Addiction Care in the ED Accreditation**](https://www.acep.org/paced/) program (**PACED**) promotes quality, patient safety, communication, responsibility, and clarity in the creation of pain and addiction management programs in the Emergency Departments (ED). ACEP, through the PACED program, provides a national accreditation body that formally accredits ED pain and addiction management programs. The PACED program seeks to improve care for that large population of patients in pain or struggling with addiction and provide standards in care, treatment, and disposition. This program ensures hospital ED staff is aligned with best practices and prepared to fight the epidemic through collaborative teams, road maps, and tools to assist the patient.

**PACED ACCREDITATION: OBJECTIVES**

**Patients and Caregivers:**

* Facilitate effective treatment for pain and addiction, while minimizing the use of opioid medications when appropriate, utilizing them only when necessary.
* Improve patient outcomes and satisfaction.
* Reduce medical complications related to pain management and addiction.

**Hospitals:**

* Establish standards for high-quality care for pain and addiction management.
* Reduce ED visits and hospital readmissions.
* Reward and acknowledge EDs/staff/hospitals that are providing excellent care to patients.
* Provide a mechanism to periodically reassess the care they provide to ensure they are maintaining high-quality care and incorporating innovations to the standard of care.

**Emergency Physicians and Other Healthcare Providers:**

* Provide a mechanism for rapid dissemination of advances in pain and addiction management.
* Ensure emergency physicians have the necessary resources, protocols, and training to provide optimal pain and/or addiction management.
* Assist EMS providers in decision-making about where to seek acute care through a recognizable brand.
* Incentivize, reward, and acknowledge emergency physicians that are providing excellent care for patients with pain and/or addiction.
* Reduce medical complications related to pain management and/or addiction and Improve patient outcomes and satisfaction.

The PACED Board of Governors <https://www.acep.org/paced/our-team/> is in place to help each institution reach the highest standards of pain management care; standards that will continue to evolve. The accreditation award is valid for a 3-year term.

**PACED Program Contacts**

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**American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP):** <https://www.acep.org/>

**PACED program site**: <https://www.acep.org/paced/>

**PACED resources:** <https://www.acep.org/paced/resources/>

**PACED process and criteria info**: <https://www.acep.org/paced/about-the-process/>