

# ER/LA Opioid Analgesics REMS

The Extended Release and Long-Acting (ER/LA) Opioid Analgesics  
Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)



## REMS-Compliant Prescriber Training

---

In 2007, Congress granted the FDA the authority to require manufacturers of medicinal products to implement a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) if the FDA determines a REMS is necessary to ensure that a drug's benefits outweigh its risks. A REMS is a safety strategy required by the FDA from manufacturers to manage a known or potential serious risk associated with a medication and to enable patients to have continued access to such medications by managing their safe use.

FDA has required a shared REMS for all extended-release (ER) and long-acting (LA) opioid medications called the "ER/LA Opioid Analgesics REMS".

If you prescribe ER/LA opioid analgesics, FDA strongly encourages you to complete a REMS-compliant continuing education (CE) program that provides updated training on the risks and safe use of ER/LA opioids. Numerous CE activities that meet REMS standards (also known as "REMS-compliant CE") are currently available in both live and online formats. These activities are offered by accredited providers of CE at nominal or no cost to you. A listing of the ER/LA Opioid Analgesics REMS-compliant CE activities supported by the REMS Program Companies (RPC), a consortium of ER/LA opioid companies, can be found at: <https://search.er-la-opioidrems.com/>.

Providers of REMS-compliant CE adhere strictly to the accreditation standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education® (ACCME) or other CE accrediting bodies.

The REMS also includes a one-page document that prescribers can use to counsel patients on the risks and safe use of ER/LA opioid analgesics. This patient counseling document can be accessed at:

<http://www.er-la-opioidrems.com/lwgUI/rems/pcd.action>

Additional information/resources may be found at <http://www.er-la-opioidrems.com>.