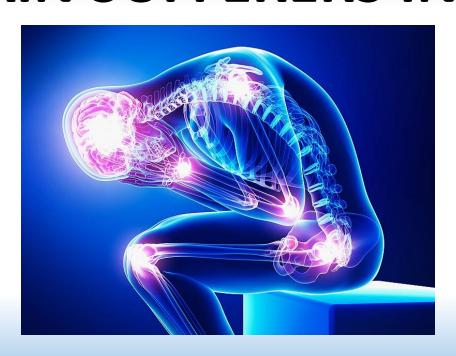
TAKING ACTION TO HELP CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS IN DELAWARE



September 3, 2015
Phil Mandel, PAIN LINX

WHY AM I HERE?

- To educate and call you to ACTION
- To celebrate September as Pain Awareness Month
- To discuss the National Pain Strategy

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO HELP PAIN SUFFERERS IN DELAWARE

- YOU or a loved one has chronic pain
- YOU will be obtaining knowledge
- YOU and other people have the power

ACTIONS TO CHANGE THE WAY CHRONIC PAIN IS PERCEIVED AND TREATED

- Assist legislators to better understand chronic pain
- Request the Healthcare Commission to develop a chronic pain initiative

EXISTING SUPPORT FOR CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS

- Governor Markell's Proclamation declaring September as Pain Awareness Month in Delaware
- PAIN LINX community organization
- The National Pain Strategy

SUMMARY OF GOVERNOR MARKELL'S PROCLAMATION

- More than 100 MILLION people in the U.S. live with chronic pain
- Many healthcare professionals are unaware of how to effectively treat pain
- Increased awareness and treatment options can lead to much needed relief
- ALL CITIZENS SHOULD STRIVE TO EDUCATE THEMSELVES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES ABOUT CHRONIC PAIN

AN EXAMPLE OF AN ACTION: ESTABLISHMENT OF PAIN LINX

- I founded the organization, with the cooperation of Beebe Healthcare, taking ACTION in Sussex County
- It offers education and support for those who have chronic pain
- Such organizations can be formed throughout the state

THE NATIONAL PAIN STRATEGY

- Federal initiative as result of the Affordable Care Act
- HHS, DOD, VA, and pain-related organizations both public and private
- Significant effort to bring chronic pain into the "daylight"

THE NATIONAL PAIN STRATEGY, CONTINUED

- Comprehensive population health strategy:
 - How severe is chronic pain as a public health issue
 - Prevention and care improvement
 - Disparities in servicing populations
 - Service delivery and reimbursement
 - Educate and train medical professionals
 - Public awareness and communication

THE NATIONAL PAIN STRATEGY MY CONCLUSIONS

- Effort that will require tremendous resources, monitoring, and leadership
- Need for massive public relations campaign
- Each individual state can use the objectives of the National Pain Strategy

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Realize that YOU have the POWER to effect positive change
- Become ACTIVE by:
 - Requesting legislation that addresses specific issues involving chronic pain
 - Ask the Healthcare Commission to create an initiative:
 - 1. Communicate to the medical community to improve patient care
 - 2. State is working for them and they can help
 - Resources on chronic pain Google
 - Lobbying Techniques Booklet

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