

IWP

The Patient Advocate Pharmacy®

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State of the States



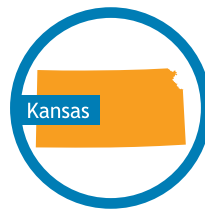
As Indiana nears the adoption of the ODG drug **formulary** by the end of the year, the Workers' Compensation

Board's task force has released a rough draft of guidelines. Contained within the rough draft is an overview of how an N-drug will be handled, including allowing for approval of an N-drug via phone call or email and approval only being granted for a single prescription order, not subsequent prescriptions of the same drug. The task force will have to recommend final proposed regulations shortly for implementation by January 1, 2019.



On October 17, the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation will hold a public **hearing** on the proposed 13.4% rate reduction for workers' compensation in

2019. The state is looking at it's second year in a row of a double-digit rate reduction, a shock to many stakeholders who expected a double-digit increase in rates following a 2016 state Supreme Court decision that removed caps on attorney's fees.



Kansas received a \$736,000 grant from the Department of Justice to **expand** their state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, K-TRACS. With the funding, the state will hire a special investigator to examine the PDMP data and identify suspicious and harmful prescribing patterns. In addition, the Board of Pharmacy will launch a public awareness campaign about the PDMP to educate citizens on what it's for and how it is used.



The United States House and Senate have reached a **deal** on a comprehensive opioid bill. Both the House and Senate have separately passed legislation this year on the topic, but for a bill to make it to the President's desk, both houses must pass the identical language. The lengthy bill focuses on increasing the use of PDMPs, expand substance abuse treatment options, and stop the flow of illegal drugs into the country. The House is expected to take up the bill next week.

