

- Q.** Has anyone questioned disclosure of information on "professional patients?" Although we haven't had any identified in recent months, there have been times when a "patient" would go from one hospital to another down I-80 to visit the various ER's to get "certain" narcotic injections for their pain. If they were recognized as such, we notified area hospitals to be on the lookout. Any thoughts?
- A.** This should fall under the law enforcement exceptions through the requirements of the Controlled Substance Act. (Kathy Zeitz, JD,Methodist Health System)

It may also fall under the treatment exception, as it is a way of preventing unnecessary and/or harmful treatment that the health professional reasonably believes will be sought. Pharmacies routinely fax each other when such patients are encountered. (Ken Kester, PharmD, JD)