November 19, 2020

Re: Commitment Statement for the National Collaborative on the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

To Whom It May Concern:

Duke University Health System is an academic medical center with a global reputation that provides clinical care, engages in clinical and basic science research and provides nursing and medical education. The Health System has a large ambulatory care network and an academic faculty group of specialists that deliver the full spectrum of primary to quaternary care within the walls of three hospitals and numerous outpatient facilities.

Mission
Advancing Health Together

Vision
In advancing health together, we will:
• Deliver tomorrow's health care today
• Accelerate discovery and its translation
• Create education that is transforming
• Build healthy communities
• Connect with the world to improve health globally

The Health System has created a task force to lead an initiative aimed at building a system-wide approach to how we manage pain and opioids. I have outlined our Mission and Vision for that work below:

Mission
Create a cohesive strategy to optimize pain management and safe opioid prescribing at Duke Health and to reduce the impact of substance abuse on our community

Vision
• Utilize Evidence Based Strategies for Optimal Care
• Evolve, learn and inform
• Patient, Provider and Community Education
• Ensure healthy communities through outreach
• Establish a global standard of care
The Strategic Goals we have outlined for this work align well with the work undertaken by the National Collaborative on the Opioid Epidemic.

- Optimal Management of Pain
- Safe Opioid Prescribing
- Management of Opioid Use Disorder
- Diversification and Risk Mitigation

Within these broad areas of focus, we are working to develop practice standards, engage in research to support best practice and implement an education plan for patients, providers and the community. This work started over a year ago and continues to evolve. There are work groups dedicated to the goals listed above that have convened stakeholders and developed appropriate interventions that are now being piloted and implemented.

We look forward to joining the National Collaborative as a participating Network Organization, learning from others and sharing the great work that has been done to date.

Warmest regards,

Joseph G. Rogers, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Duke University Health System
Professor of Anesthesiology and Population Health
Executive Vice Chair, Duke Anesthesiology
Professor of Medicine, Cardiology
Director of Pain Management Strategy and Opioid Surveillance, Duke University Health System

Padma Gulur, MD
Professor of Anesthesiology and Population Health
Duke University Health System
Professor of Anesthesiology
Professor of Medicine, Cardiology
Executive Vice Chair, Duke Anesthesiology
Director of Pain Management Strategy and Opioid Surveillance, Duke University Health System