



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Chris Fox: Chris@nonopioidchoices.org
(240) 381-0830 (mobile)

**Survey: One Year In, NOPAIN Act Working as Congress Intended;
But More Progress to be Made**

Washington, DC (February 5, 2026) – Today, Voices for Non-Opioid Choices (“Voices”) released data from a national awareness, trial, and usage survey (ATU) showing early impacts from the federal legislation that went into effect on January 1, 2025. The legislation – the *Non-Opioids Prevent Addiction (“NOPAIN”) Act* – sought to prevent opioid addiction by increasing access to qualifying non-opioid pain management options for Medicare beneficiaries undergoing surgery in ambulatory surgery center (ASC) and hospital outpatient department settings.

Key highlights from the survey include:

- Eighty-five percent of facility representatives surveyed were aware of the legislation and more than half (52 percent) of facilities surveyed had taken steps to increase utilization of qualifying non-opioid options;
- More than 80 percent of those surveyed reported that the legislation has decreased opioid prescribing immediately after surgery (83 percent) and at discharge (88 percent); and
- The majority of respondents report changing perioperative and postoperative pain management protocols (52 and 51 percent, respectively) to increase use of non-opioids and decrease the use of opioids.

“The NOPAIN Act is doing exactly what we said it would do – reducing our overreliance on prescription opioids to treat postsurgical pain,” said Chris Fox, Executive Director of Voices for Non-Opioid Choices. “Pain management protocols take time to evolve and develop, so this data is, we hope, just the tip of the iceberg in terms of the potential impact of this law. We will work tirelessly to educate providers, patients and facilities, and continually assess the full impact of this law as more facilities avail themselves of the new reimbursement benefit.”

Data from the survey was gathered during a 12-minute online survey of nearly 750 hospitals, health systems, or ASC Directors of Pharmacy, Medical Directors, Surgeons, and Anesthesiologists conducted between October 31 and December 1, 2025.

“As a physician, I am proud to see that the law is working as intended even this early in its implementation,” said Joseph Smith, MD, a founding Board Member of Voices for Non-Opioid

Choices. “I am very excited for more providers and patients to learn about the law⁵ and foresee increasing evidence of the impact that can occur when you make non-opioids more accessible to patients at more facilities across the country.”

For more information on the ATU, including the complete results, click here [INSERT LINK].

About Voices for Non-Opioid Choices

Voices for Non-Opioid Choices is a nonpartisan coalition dedicated to preventing opioid addiction before it starts by increasing patient and provider access to non-opioid therapies and approaches to manage acute pain. For more information, visit www.nonopioidchoices.org.

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