

NTSB Issues Recommendations for Health Care Providers

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is the federal agency responsible for the investigation of accidents in aviation and other forms of transportation. Last year, the NTSB published a safety study that focused on toxicology tests of fatally injured pilots. As a result of the study, the NTSB issued two recommendations to the state of Ohio:

- (1) Include in all state guidelines regarding prescribing controlled substances for pain a recommendation that health care providers discuss with patients the effect their medical condition and medication use may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle in any mode of transportation. (I-14-1)
- (2) Use existing newsletters or other routine forms of communication with licensed health care providers and pharmacists to highlight the importance of routinely discussing with patients the effect their diagnosed medical conditions or recommended drugs may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle in any mode of transportation. (I-14-2)

The Board encourages prescribers to talk with patients about prescriptions that may impact their ability to safely operate a vehicle.