

UAMS News Bureau

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News Release
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**Understanding Opioids Educational Presentation
to be Held Oct. 23 in Little Rock**

LITTLE ROCK – The public is invited to a free educational event Oct. 23 in Little Rock to learn about opioids and non-opioid pain management alternatives in the older population.

The presentation will be held 5 – 7 p.m. at the Life Line Baptist Church, 7601 Baseline Road. For more information or to register, please call Lifeline Baptist Church at 501-568-5433 or email office@lifelinebaptist.org. Space is limited. Dinner will be provided to attendees registered by Oct. 18.

The program is presented by the Arkansas Geriatric Education Collaborative of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and AARP. The collaborative is funded by a Health Resources and Services Administration grant of \$3.7 million for a Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program.

Presenter Laura Spradley of UAMS will discuss how pain works, examples of opioids, non-opioid pain alternatives, state and local resources, and provide a comprehensive take home book.

In the United States, over 1,000 people are treated daily in emergency rooms for misusing prescription opioids. As of 2014, one out of every eight Americans who seek treatment for substance abuse is over 50 years of age.

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With nearly 38 million members and offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate for what matters most to families with a focus on health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also works for individuals in the marketplace by sparking new solutions and allowing carefully chosen, high-quality products and services to carry the AARP name. As a trusted source for news and information, AARP produces the world's

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largest circulation publications, AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org or follow @AARP on Twitter and AARP Arkansas on Facebook.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise including its hospital, regional clinics and clinics it operates or staffs in cooperation with other providers. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. *U.S. News & World Report* named UAMS Medical Center the state's Best Hospital; ranked its ear, nose and throat program among the top 50 nationwide; and named six areas as high performing — cancer, colon cancer surgery, heart failure, hip replacement, knee replacement and lung cancer surgery. UAMS has 2,727 students, 870 medical residents and five dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's Hospital, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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