

## Gottlieb Says FDA Acted Slowly On Opioids

Scott Gottlieb, the commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, said at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Washington, D.C. “We were too slow to change labeling on certain drugs to discourage chronic prescribing in situations where it is inappropriate. We were too slow to recommend changing the scheduling of hydrocodone to restrict its access when there were signs of mounting abuse. And we were too slow to advance efforts to make proper physician education more routine.”

Managing partner [Harry Nelson](#) was interviewed by Emily Field with Law360 to weigh in on Gottlieb’s response.

From the article:

Harry Nelson of health care boutique firm [Nelson Hardiman](#) said that while he gave credit to Gottlieb for acknowledging the FDA’s role in the crisis, but he said he found Gottlieb oversimplified the issue of physician over-prescribing.

“We haven’t yet cracked the code of what it’s going to take get physicians to be where we need them to be to address opioid use disorders and find alternatives to opioids,” Nelson said.

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