



Patient Information for Narcotics

Physical dependence is expected in the regular use of narcotic pain medicines. This means that if you stop taking your medicine suddenly, you will almost certainly experience withdrawals. This is an unpleasant but not usually a medically dangerous event.

Addiction is a possible complication of regular narcotic usage. Addiction means using the pain medicine for anything other than pain and is a separate medical condition. If you don't have an addiction before starting the medically monitored use of narcotics, there is only a small chance that you will develop one. Addiction and Dependence is NOT the same thing.

If your pain medicine dosage is not adequately relieving your pain, you should call our office. DO NOT take your medicine more often, or use higher dosages than your prescription is written for. You need to discuss your unrelieved pain with your doctor so that changes can be considered. If dosage changes are made, a new prescription will be written. The absolute WORST thing you can do is start taking more of your medicine that is prescribed, run out early, and then call our clinic. You will be told to keep your previous one-month appointment without additional medicines being written.

Routine drug testing is a part of your medical care. If drug testing indicates some discrepancy between the pain medicines that you get from us and what is in your urine, it will almost certainly result in our clinic not being able to continue writing your medicines.

In an emergency, if another physician prescribes you pain medicine of any kind; this must be reported to us IMMEDIATELY. Failure to do so will be considered a violation of your Treatment Agreement and Refill Policy. Obtaining pain medicines from any other source (buying them off of the street, seeing another doctor for a pain-related condition) is not consistent with our agreement and will result in our clinic not being able to continue writing your medicines. When you leave our office with your written prescription, you are solely responsible for your medications. We will be unable to write another prescription for any reason until your next office appointment. Lost or stolen medications will not be replaced for any reason. Issues such as the pharmacy not having enough of your particular medicine and your insurance not paying for your complete prescription are not ones that this office can assist you with. You must be very careful in the obtaining, storage, and usage of your medications.

I have received a copy of Patient Information for Narcotics and will abide by its contents.

Name: _____ Date: _____