

Precautions:

- 1) Narcotics can be habit forming and addiction, tolerance or dependence can occur with longer term use.
- 2) Combining narcotic pain medication with alcohol, sedatives, muscle relaxants, or antidepressants may result in serious side effects or complications.
- 3) Other medications may also have unrecognized or unpredictable interactions with pain medications.
- 4) Operating heavy equipment or driving is not permitted when using narcotic pain medications.

Scope of prescribing and timing of prescriptions:

- 1) Your neurosurgeon may prescribe pain medications for a limited time as part of treatment associated with acute injuries or surgical care/procedures.
- 2) As narcotics can be habit forming and addiction, tolerance or dependence can occur with longer term use, long term prescription for narcotic medications will not be provided by your neurosurgeon beyond 90 days of use.
- 3) Prescriptions for narcotics/controlled substances can only be provided as a WRITTEN prescription. They may not be “called in” to a pharmacy.
- 4) Long term pain medication needs will require referral to pain management or the patient's primary care provider.
- 5) All the providers at Neuroscience Specialists participate in the Oklahoma Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) to allow review of physician prescribing patterns and patient narcotic use compliance.

Patient responsibilities:

- 1) Medications are to be used as prescribed.
- 2) If medications are not adequate for pain control, adjustments/increases in the amount of medication used should not be done without discussion with the prescribing provider.
- 3) Failure to follow a recommended plan of treatment, including delays in advised care or surgical intervention will result in cessation of providing prescriptions for pain medication.
- 4) Obtaining additional pain medication from another provider after prescriptions have been provided by your current neurosurgeon is not permitted.
- 5) Obtaining pain medications from multiple providers (unless the “other provider” is a recognized Pain Management specialist or Primary Care provider and your current neurosurgeon has been informed of ongoing chronic pain management) will result in the refusal to provide any additional pain medication prescriptions and contact with the other prescription provider. It may result in discharge from neurosurgical care.
- 6) Pain medications should be obtained from a single pharmacy.

Medication/Prescription Refills:

- 1) Refills of pain medications may be prescribed if appropriate.
- 2) Medication refills may be requested Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30 and Friday 9:30-4:30. It may take up to 72 hours to review and complete prescription request. Please

understand that as surgeons, our physicians are only available in the office two days a week, the other three days a week they are performing surgery. We will not be able to contact them while they are in surgery.

3) Medication refills (including late requests) are not available evenings or on weekends or holidays.

4) An "On Call" provider WILL NOT refill prescriptions for pain medications.

5) Medication refills will not be provided because of missed or cancelled appointments.

6) Pain medication refills must be obtained in person by the patient, unless the patient authorizes another party to pick up the medication. This person must be listed in the chart and must bring valid picture identification. If you do not live in the metro area we will mail your prescription to your home at your request.

7) It is preferable to have patients contact a single pharmacy and have the pharmacy leave a refill message with the prescribing provider. You may be contacted by our office in order to evaluate your progress and pain level. When you call please leave the following information:

Patient Name

Patient Telephone Number

Physician name (for this prescription refill request)

Name of medication

Date of last prescription for this medication

Pharmacy name AND PHONE NUMBER

Any questions or concerns regarding these policies should be discussed in person with your physician during office visits.