

Pain Relief Centers Policy for Treatment and Care

Dear Patient:

We would like to take this opportunity to familiarize you with the philosophy of our interventional pain management practice. Our goal is to help each patient obtain the best quality of life possible using a combination of interventional treatments, medications, physical therapy, home exercise routines and lifestyle changes. Though we do also use narcotic medications for some patients, our goal for our patients is to decrease the dose to the lowest amount possible or discontinue the use of these medications entirely.

Long term, regular narcotic medications will only be considered for patients with severe disease who have not responded to surgery or are not surgical candidates. These patients may also be able to decrease their need for narcotic medications with the help of other treatment options.

Patients must agree to do random urine drug screening for therapeutic monitoring. Patients who refuse to comply or are found to be violating their narcotic agreement will no longer be prescribed controlled substances and may be discharged from the practice. In some situations, the authorities will be notified if criminal behavior is suspected.

You should realize that narcotic medications can:

1. become ineffective over time
2. be habit forming or cause addiction
3. cause overdose or even death if used other than prescribed
4. interfere with your ability to operate machinery or use sound judgment
5. interfere with your ability to drive a car
6. interfere with your sexual functioning

In order to be prescribed certain medications, monthly office visits are necessary. If you have a problem with your medication, you must be seen in the office for evaluation. Refills of medications will be handled at scheduled office visits; telephone refills will be avoided. Should your medication run out early because it was not taken as prescribed or was lost or stolen, it may not be replaced. Evaluation in the office is may be required to address the problem.

Office visits and medication issues will be handled during business hours and emergency situations should be handled by the nearest emergency room. If you are unable to keep your scheduled appointment, please contact us 24 hours in advance so we may reschedule you in a timely fashion. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in these matters; we look forward to treating you.

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____