

APEX MEDICAL CENTER

NARCOTIC TREATMENT AGREEMENT

Please Read Carefully Before Signing.

Our policy regarding narcotic use for CHRONIC NONMALIGNANT (non cancerous) pain is strict and non-negotiable, and based on medical research, as well as clinical experience.

I am aware that the use of such medicine has certain risks associated with it, including, but not limited to: sleepiness or drowsiness, constipation, nausea, itching, vomiting, lightheadedness, dizziness, confusion, allergic reaction, slowing of breathing rate, slowing of reflexes or reaction time, kidney or liver disease, sexual dysfunction, physical dependence, tolerance to analgesia, addiction, withdrawal and the possibility that the medicine will not provide complete relief. The overuse of narcotic medication can result in serious health risks including respiratory depression or even death.

The rules regarding narcotic use are outlined below. These rules were developed with the patient's welfare in mind. If these rules are unacceptable or at odds with your medical goals, we will honor your request to be referred to another pain management physician.

1. Long-acting narcotics will be administered for chronic pain problems. Our goal is to minimize use of short acting narcotics and narcotic mixtures (i.e. Percocet, Lortab, Vicodin, etc.), whenever possible.
2. Refill will occur on a monthly basis and ONLY after a visit and physical examination. NO REFILLS WILL BE MADE OVER THE TELEPHONE. NO REFILLS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER HOURS, ON WEEKENDS, OR HOLIDAYS. Early refill request will not be honored.
3. You are not to receive prescription for narcotics or sedative drugs from any other physician while under our care. Exceptions will be made in extraordinary circumstances and ONLY after consulting with a physician.
4. You may not share, sell, trade, exchange your medications for money, goods, services etc. or otherwise permit others to have access to these medications. You agree to keep these medications in a secure place.
5. Any evidence of prescriptions, forged prescriptions, substance abuse, or aberrant behavior (including, but not limited to: verbal abuse to office staff) may result in termination of patient-physician relationship. A Lost prescription will not be replaced, so protect your medications. Exceptions may be made in extraordinary circumstances (i.e., your house burns down and you have a police report stating so).
6. Prescriptions are to be used ONLY as written. Use of increased amount of medication, without consulting with a physician, will not be allowed.
7. Unannounced, random urine or serum toxicology screens may be requested by Apex provider to determine my compliance with this agreement and my regimen of pain control medication. Tests may include screens for illegal substances, and your cooperation is required. Presence of unauthorized substances may prompt referral for assessment for addictive disorder. **Refusal of such testing may subject you to an abrupt rapid wean schedule in order for the medication to be discontinued or prompt termination from care.**
8. Termination terms will include a written letter to you and fulfillment of your medical needs, including narcotic prescription for up to one month from the date of termination (unless you already received narcotics from another source). You may be presented the option to receive an evaluation for drug dependency and if appropriate for detoxification in lieu of termination. Your pain is your responsibility, we are here to assist. Making and keeping appointments for medication refills is YOUR responsibility. Apex medical Center will provide support in your quest to minimize pain. You must make new efforts to improve SLEEP HABITS, NUTRITION, BODY WEIGHT, CONDITIONING, and PSYCHOLOGICAL STATE. Narcotics are not the answer to chronic pain, but can be used effectively to improve your pain and minimize dependency.

I, _____ (Patient), have read and accept the conditions of this contract.

Patient Signature; _____

Date: _____