

# APEX MEDICAL CENTER

## CHRONIC PAIN NARCOTIC CONTRACT

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. Narcotics should be used ONLY as a last resort and ONLY as an adjuvant to other therapies. The physician will provide nutritional and physical resources to improve your function, as well as medical therapies and injections. Our goal is to minimize narcotic use.

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 the discontinuation of short acting narcotics and narcotic mixtures (i.e. Percocet, Lortab, Vicodin, etc.), whenever possible.
2. "Rescue Doses" of short acting narcotics will not be routinely prescribed.
3. 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.**
4. If refill requests are made after hours, you will be instructed by the answering service to go to an emergency room of your choice.
5. You are not to receive prescriptions for narcotic or sedative drugs from any other physician. Exceptions will be made in extraordinary circumstances and ONLY after consulting with a physician.
6. Any evidence of prescriptions, forged prescriptions, substance abuse, or aberrant behavior (including verbal abuse to my office staff) will result in termination of patient-physician relationship.
7. Lost prescriptions 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).
8. Prescriptions are to be used ONLY as written. Use of increased amount of medication, without consultation with a physician, will not be allowed.
9. Termination terms will include a written letter to you and fulfillment of your medical needs, including narcotic prescription, for one month after the date of termination. You will be presented with the option, in lieu of termination, to receive an evaluation for drug dependency and, if appropriate, be referred for detoxification.

Your pain is YOUR responsibility. Making appointments for medication refills is YOUR responsibility. Apex Medical Center will provide medical support in your quest to minimize your pain. You must make new efforts to improve SLEEP HABITS, NUTRITION, BODY WEIGHT, CONDITIONING, and AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STATE. Narcotics are not the answer to chronic pain, but can be used effectively to improve your pain and minimize narcotic dependency.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and accept the conditions of this contract.  
PATIENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date