

NARCOTIC POLICY

This agreement is between you, the patient, and Dr. Gregory McNamara. It is agreed that narcotic medication will be given by Dr. McNamara to you only if the following terms are met:

- Dr. McNamara discusses the uses of narcotic medications with the patient, including the issues of appropriate realistic goals for pain relief, proper methods of taking the medications, risks of side effects and specific issues of developing tolerance, dependence, habitation, addiction and withdrawal problems due to these medications.
- The patient has a chance to ask questions regarding the use of narcotic medications.
- By signing a special consent form for chronic narcotic administration, the patient indicated that he/she has understood the discussion about the use of narcotic medications, including all the side effects, and is agreeable to start this treatment under the terms set by Dr. McNamara.
- Dr. McNamara should be the one and only source of narcotic medications unless written permission is given by Dr. McNamara for the patient to get narcotic prescriptions from another physician.
- Only **ONE** pharmacy will be used for filling narcotic prescriptions. The name, address and telephone number will be given to Dr. McNamara.
- If it is found that the patient acquired prescriptions for narcotic medications from a source other than Dr. McNamara, without written permission, Dr. McNamara may void this agreement and discontinue any prescription of narcotic medications to the patient.
- The patient agrees to have urine tests for medications done randomly at the physician's request; typically done for individuals routinely seeking narcotics.
- The patient must agree to allow Dr. McNamara to communicate with the referring physician and any pharmacists regarding the patient's use of controlled substances.
- The patient understands that Dr. McNamara will not replace any lost or inaccessible narcotic prescriptions or narcotic medications, for **ANY REASON**.
- The patient must take the narcotic medications exactly as instructed by Dr. McNamara or in smaller doses.
- Any unauthorized increase in the dose of narcotic medication may be viewed as a cause for discontinuation of the treatment with narcotic medications.
- If the patient demonstrates unacceptable behavior patterns, Dr. McNamara may discontinue prescribing the narcotic medications for the patient.
- The patient must keep all regular follow up appointments as recommended by Dr. McNamara. Failure to comply may cause discontinuation of narcotic prescriptions.
- **All prescriptions must be picked up by the patient himself.** If the patient is too debilitated or sick, an exception may be allowed.
- **NO narcotic prescriptions will be refilled on weekends or over the phone.** Narcotic prescriptions cannot be refilled over the telephone - refills will only be issued at the time of your follow up visit. If your prescription does not last until your next visit, that indicates a problem. Please schedule an appointment at your earliest convenience, in order to discuss the reasons why you ran out of medication, and whether we can refill your narcotic prescription.
- The patient understands that the benefit of the narcotic medications will be evaluated periodically using the following criteria of pain relief, increase in general functions, increase in exercise, completion of Rehabilitation program, return to work, maintenance of a job, etc.
- The patient understands that narcotic medications can be discontinued immediately, at the treating physician's discretion, if the patient does not fulfill the terms of this agreement. Medication can also be discontinued if there is evidence of rapid tolerance, loss of effectiveness, or if significant side effects develop.
- The patient certifies or agrees to the following:
 - a) That he/she is not currently abusing illicit or prescription drugs, and that he/she is not undergoing treatment for substance dependence or abuse.
 - b) The he/she has never been involved in the sale, illegal possession, diversion or transport of controlled substances (narcotics, sleeping pills, nerve pills, or pain killers).

- c) That she is not pregnant and that she will use appropriate contraception during her course of treatment.
- d) Sharing your narcotics is strictly prohibited. Any sharing will result in the immediate cancellation of your prescription refills.
- Evidence of medication hoarding, increasing the amount of medication without communication to Dr. McNamara, refilling your prescription too frequently, getting the medication from multiple physicians, increasing the amount of the medication despite significant side effects, altering prescriptions, medication sales, unapproved use of other drugs (alcohol, sedatives, or using non-prescription medications inconsistent with drug labeling) during narcotic analgesic treatment or other unacceptable behavior will result in tapering and discontinuing of narcotic maintenance therapy.

This form has been fully explained to me, I have read it or have had it read to me, and I understand and agree to the terms of this contract.

**On the day of your appointment we
will ask that you sign this form
electronically**