

The purpose of this agreement is to outline our practice policies and expectations for patients in our chronic pain management program. As a pain management clinic, we monitor compliance very closely.

### Prescriptions:

- ONLY obtain pain medication(s) from our office. If opioids are prescribed after surgery, dental procedure/surgery or urgent care/ER visit, **notify the office within 24 hours.**
- Only use **one** pharmacy, if there is a change in pharmacies, you must notify us.
- Take medication(s) as prescribed.
- Do NOT take medication(s) that are not prescribed to you or take old medication(s).
- Keep medication(s) in a safe and secure place. Lost or stolen medication must be reported to the police and your physician immediately.

### **Prescriptions will not be refilled early.**

- Refills of medication(s) will only be given as authorized by your provider.
- Refills will not be made at night, on the weekends, or during holidays.
- It is against the law to give or sell your medication(s) to any other person.
- Running out of medication(s) early is not considered an emergency.
- Early refills for out-of-town travel may require proof in the form of travel itinerary.
- We cannot force a pharmacy to fill or your insurance to pay for your prescription.

### Appointments:

- Keep your scheduled appointments.
- Failing to keep appointments or being chronically late may result in discharge from our clinic.
- Appointments are scheduled per the provider's requirements and may require you to be seen every month.
- If you miss or reschedule your appointment, it is the provider's discretion to authorize a refill appointment.
- You must arrive on time. Arriving late will result in a \$15.00 late fee, due at the time of service, if you want to be seen & you will be "worked in" as the schedule allows. If you choose to reschedule your appointment, your medication may not be prescribed.
- Arriving too early at your appointment may result in a longer waiting time. You may be "worked in" if the schedule allows.
- Appointment reminders are a courtesy. It is your responsibility to know when your appointment is.

### Treatment Plans:

- Accurately list all medical conditions and medications, including herbal remedies & over-the-counter medications.
- We may contact any healthcare professional, family member, pharmacy, legal authority, or regulatory agency to obtain or provide information about your care or actions.
- Participate in other conservative treatment plans recommended by your provider.
- Treatment plans & medications may be altered at any time for any reason.

### Compliance:

- No use of any illicit substances or alcohol is permitted.
- You will be subject to urine drug testing on your 1<sup>st</sup> visit & periodic unannounced urine drug testing thereafter. (See Financial below)
- You will be subject to periodic unannounced pill counts. Pain medication(s) must be brought to every visit.
- Patients are responsible for complying with all laws and regulations while taking these medications.
- Unauthorized visits to any of the offices without an appointment are not permitted.
- Physical & verbal abuse of office staff or pharmacists will **NOT** be tolerated. This includes disruptions affecting daily operations within the office as well as abuse on the phone. **This will result in immediate discharge from the practice.**

### Warnings & Side Effects:

- Addiction to these medications is possible. It is more common if you have a personal or family history of alcohol or drug misuse/addiction; you must notify the physician. However, addiction can occur to anyone.
- Suddenly stopping these medications could be dangerous. Discuss stopping medication(s) with your provider, prior to doing so.
- Do not drive or use dangerous equipment when taking medication(s) that may cause impairment as advised by your provider.
- Narcan is strongly recommended to be available if taking opioid narcotics.
- We strongly discourage taking benzodiazepines, such as Diazepam, Lorazepam, Clonazepam, etc. while taking narcotics. We will work with your prescriber to find alternative treatments to minimize the risk to your safety.
- Physical Side effects may include mood changes, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, urination difficulties, depressed breathing, itching, bone thinning and sexual difficulties, such as lowering of male hormone in men and cessation of menstrual periods in women.
- Tolerance may become less effective over time even though there is no change in your physical condition.
- Hyperalgesia – you may become more sensitive to or experience increased pain.
- Overdose – taking medication(s) more than prescribed, using alcohol or other drugs can cause you to stop breathing resulting in coma, brain damage, or even death.

### Financial:

- All copays, coinsurance, & deductibles must be paid at the time of service.
- You will be financially responsible for the cost of urine drug test (\$150.00) if insurance does not pay for it.
- Your account must remain current & compliant with DPC Financial Policies.

**Violation of any of the above will result in my prescription being terminated and/or discharged from the clinic. Final decisions will be made by the providers of Dallas Pain Consultants and will be final.**

The above list is not complete, and patients should exercise caution and common sense, ask questions when a full understanding is not met, or if you feel that you may be having trouble with the treatment provided.