

# **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

(PLEASE PRINT)

Date: / /	Sex: □ M □	F Age:	Biı	rthdate:	_//
Patient Name:		First Name			
Address:				State:	Zip:
Social Security #:		Marital Status:			
Employer:		Occupation:	:	`	Yrs. Employed:
Referring Physician:			Phone: (	)	
Address:		City:		State:	Zip:
Primary Care Physician:			Phone: ( _	)	
Address:		City:		State:	Zip:
Psychiatrist:			Phone: (	)	
Address:		City:		State:	Zip:
Drugstore Name:			Phone: (	)	
Emergency Contact Name:			Relationsl	hip:	
Home Phone: ( )	Work:	(	C	:ell: ( ) _	
Insurance Information: (All blanks n	nust be filled in)	Self-Pay □ Wo	rkers Comp	Claim #: _	
Adjuster's Name:		Adjust	er's Phone: ( _	)	
Primary Insurance:		Policy	Holder:		
ID:					
Birthdate of Policy Holde Relation to Patient:					
Secondary Insurance:		Polic	v Holder:		
ID:					
Birthdate of Policy Holde	-				
Relation to Patient:					
I have completed this form fullyl and com the information requested. I understand t	hat even though I have s	ome type of insurance cov	verage, I am respo	onsible for payme	ent of services rendered.
Signature of Patient/Responsible	e Party:			_ Date:	_//



# STATE REQUIRED ETHNICITY AND RACE QUESTIONS

(PLEASE PRINT)

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Texas law requires the Texas Health Care Information Council to collect information on the race/ethnic backgrounds of medical clinic patients. Medical practices are required to ask patients to identify their own race and ethnic backgrounds.

The data obtained through this process will be used to assist researchers in determining whether or not all citizens of Texas are receiving adequate health care.

If patients fail or refuse to identify their own race and ethnic backgrounds, facility staff will use its best judgment in making the identification.

QUESTIONS:					
Mark the box that most accurately identifies the p	patient's ethnic backgr	ound.			
The Patient Is: ☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Not Hispanic/Latino ☐ Patient refuses to answer the question	ı				
The Patient's Race Is:  American Indian/Eskimo/Aleut  Asian or Pacific Islander  Black White Other (Includes all other responses not listed a		r themselves as multira	icial or mixed s	should cho	ose this category.)
The Patient's Primary Language: ☐ English ☐ Spanish ☐ Other					
Patient Name:					
Last Name	ż	First Name			
Patient or Legal Guardian Signature:			Date:	/	/



# **Notice of Privacy Practices**

# THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Southwest Pain Group (SWPG) is issuing this Notice of Privacy Practices about the information we share in common and your legal rights and our common duties with respect to your health information.

## **OUR PLEDGE TO YOU:**

We understand that health information about you and your health care is personal. We are committed to protecting health information about you. We create a record of the care and services you receive from us. We need this record to provide you with quality care, bill for your care, and comply with legal requirements. This notice applies to all of the records of your care that we maintain, whether made by our staff and authorized trainees, or by your personal doctor. This notice tells you about the ways in which SWPG may use and disclose health information about you. We also describe your rights to the health information we keep about you, and describe our obligations regarding the use and disclosure of your health information.

# HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:

Southwest Pain Group doctors, nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, and other health care professionals may use health information about you to provide you with health care **treatment** or services. We may also disclose health information about you to others who are involved in taking care of you. For example, we may send health information about you to a specialist as part of a referral.

Southwest Pain Group may use and disclose health information about you to obtain **payment** for the treatment and services you receive from us. For example, we may send billing information to your insurance company or Medicare. We may also tell your insurance company about a treatment you are going to receive to obtain prior approval or to determine whether your plan will cover the treatment. Southwest Pain Group may send you a statement of your account if payment is due from you. We may send the guarantor (responsible party for payment) monthly statements for charges for all patient's under that guarantor.

Southwest Pain Group may use and disclose health information about you to support our health care **operations**. For example, we may use health information to review the treatment and services and to evaluate the performance of our staff in caring for you. We may combine health information about many patients to decide what additional services we should offer. We may remove information that identifies you from this set of health information so others may use it to study health care delivery without learning who our specific patients are.

We may disclose information to notify a family member or other person responsible for your care about your condition, status, and location.

If you are admitted and unless you tell us otherwise, we may provide your name, location in the hospital, and your general condition (good, fair, etc.) for information to be included in a **patient directory** and make this information available to anyone who asks for you by name.



# **Notice of Privacy Practices Cont.**

We may use and disclose health information to contact you for an **appointment reminder**, to tell you about **health-related services** or recommend **possible treatment options or alternatives** that may be of interest to you, or to contact you about supporting **our fund raising** efforts.

Subject to certain requirements, we may use or disclose health information about you without your prior authorization for other reasons:

We may give out health information about you for **public health** purposes; to **report abuse or neglect**; for **health oversight reviews**; in **research** studies; for **funeral arrangements** and **organ donation**; in response to special **law enforcement** requests, valid judicial or administrative orders, or for authorized national security and intelligence activities; for **workers' compensation** purposes; to **avert a serious threat** to your health or safety or those of the public or another person; and when **required by law**. If you are or were a member of the armed forces, we may release information about you as required by military command authorities or the Department of Veterans Affairs. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may release health information about you to the correctional institution or law enforcement official.

In any other situation not covered by this notice, we will ask for your written **authorization** before using or disclosing your health information. You may **revoke** this authorization for any subsequent disclosures by notifying us in writing.

# YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:

You have the right to request in writing that you **inspect and obtain a copy** of the health information that we use to make decisions about your care. We may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies and services associated with your request. If we deny your request to inspect or obtain a copy in certain limited circumstances, you may request that the denial be reviewed. Another licensed health care professional chosen by SWPG will review your request and the denial and we will comply with the outcome of that review.

If you believe that health information we have about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may make a written request to ask us to **amend information**. The request should state the reason for the amendment and specific information to be amended. The amendment must be limited to one page. Any amendment we make to your health information will be disclosed to those with whom we disclose information as previously noted.

We may deny your request for an amendment if the information to be amended was not created by us, is no longer maintained by us, is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or is accurate and complete. We will notify you if we deny your request for amendment and you may appeal, in writing, our decision. Any statements of disagreement or rebuttal will be linked to your health information and made a part of any subsequent disclosure we make of such information.



# **Notice of Privacy Practices Cont.**

You have the right to make a written request for a **list of disclosures** we have made of your health information, except for uses and disclosures for treatment, payment, and health care operations, as previously described, and those for which you have authorized disclosure. Your request must state a time period which may not be longer than six years and may not include date April 14, 2003. We will not charge you for the first list you request within a 12-month period, additional requests will be charged according to our cost for producing the list. We will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.

You have the right to **request a restriction** on the health information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment, or health care operations. There may be risks associated with such restrictions and we may ask you to acknowledge these risks in writing for certain requests you may make. **We are not required to agree to your request for restrictions** if it is not feasible for us to ensure our compliance or believe it will negatively impact the care we may provide you. If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide you emergency treatment.

You have the right to request, in writing without requiring you to state a reason, that **confidential communications** with you be made in an alternative manner or location. We will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted.

# **WRITTEN REQUESTS:**

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact: Southwest Pain Group at 8230 Walnut Hill Lane, Suite 320, Dallas, Texas 75231 or call (214) 265-9991.

# **COPIES OF NOTICE AND CHANGES:**

You have the right to obtain a paper copy of this notice at any time. We reserve the right to change this notice, and to make the revised or changed notice effective for health information we already have about you as well as any information we receive in the future.

## **COMPLAINTS:**

If you are concerned that your privacy rights may have been violated or you disagree with a decision we make about your health information, you may contact Southwest Pain Group at 8230 Walnut Hill Lane, Suite 320, Dallas, Texas 75231 or call (214) 265-9991. You may also send a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We can provide you the address.

Under no circumstances will we ever ask you to waive your rights under this notice or retaliate against you in any manner for filing a complaint.

Please sign the following form acknowledging that you have received our Notice of Privacy Practices, effective April 14, 2003.



# **Authorization to Release Information**

Initials:	I hereby authorize Southwest Pain Group to release any information acquired in the course of my examination or treatment for the purpose of determining eligibility for benefits and claims processing. Furthermore, I hereby authorize the payment directly to Southwest Pain Group, otherwise payable to me for the services rendered. I understand that I am financially responsible for any and all charges not covered by this authorization and all outstanding balances will be referred to collections. It is office policy that patients will be subject to Urine Drug Screens at any/all office visits and these charges will be submitted to your insurance. Be aware that due to your insurance policy, you may be billed at a later date.
Initials:	ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS TO SOUTHWEST PAIN GROUP: Medicare/Medicaid Patients ONLY: I hereby authorize Southwest Pain Group to furnish to my physician, any information obtained in the adjudication of any claims in regards to the services furnished to me under the Title XVII of the Social Security Act.
	ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF PRIVACY NOTICE AND HIPAA NOTICE: By signing this form, you are agreeing that you have received a copy of our Privacy Notice, which describes how we use and disclose your health information and our HIPAA notice, which outlines standards and use of your protected health information. You have the right to refuse to sign the Acknowledgment, in which case we must document our good faith effort to obtain your acknowledgement and the reason why it was not obtained. Receipt of Privacy and HIPAA notice acknowledged.
Initials:	Patient, spouse, legal representative, or beneficiary (patient's spouse may authorize disclosure of patient's health information only when the health information is for the sole purpose of processing an application for health insurance, for enrollment in a health care service plan or an employee benefit plan, and where patient is to be an enrolled spouse or dependent under the policy or plan.)
Initials:	AUTHORIZATION TO VIEW MEDICATION LIST FROM e-PRESCRIBING SOFTWARE:  I hereby authorize Southwest Pain Group to view my medication profile available through e-prescribing software. I understand this list may not be comprehensive and is limited to the medications which have been prescribed to me electronically. It is my responsibility to provide my physician with a complete list of medications I am currently taking.
Initials:	CONSENT FOR TREATMENT: I voluntarily give my permission to the health care providers of Southwest Pain Group and such assistants and other health care providers as they may deem necessary to provide medical services to me. I understand by signing this form I am authorizing them to treat me for as long as I seek care from said providers, or until I withdraw my consent in writing.
Initials:	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MISSED APPOINTMENTS AND RETURNED CHECK POLICY: I understand that Southwest Pain Group has the right to charge a non-refundable fee of \$25 for missed office appointments, \$50 for missed procedure appointments and \$25 for checks returned unfunded.
	RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE ABOVE POLICIES/AUTHORIZATIONS/CONSENTS BY:
	Person Completing Form: Date://
	Last Name First Name Signature of Patient/Authorized Representative:
	Relationship to Patient:



# **Insurance & Financial Policy**

Thank you for choosing Southwest Pain Group. Our goal is to provide you with the highest quality care possible. We find that communication with our patients regarding our financial policy assists us in providing the best service to you. Therefore, we take this opportunity to answer some of the most commonly asked questions. Please read it, ask us any questions you may have, and sign in the space provided. A copy will be provided to you upon request.

## **INSURANCE INFORMATION:**

We must emphasize that your health is our primary concern, regardless of your insurance. Because your insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurance company, please check with your insurance carrier to determine any pre-existing limitation or other benefit restrictions that you may have, prior to your appointment.

We will file your insurance as a courtesy and assist you in any way we reasonably can to help get your claims paid. Your insurance company may need you to supply certain information directly to them. It is your responsibility to comply with their request. Please be aware that the balance of your claim is your responsibility whether or not your insurance company pays your claim.

Most insurance companies do not cover 100% of the cost of services, and there is a portion that the patient is responsible for. There are several patient responsibility components that may apply to an insurance payment.

Co-Pay- A set dollar amount per office visit that is the patient's responsibility.
 Co-Insurance- A percentage of the charge that is the patient's responsibility.
 Deductible- A set annual amount that the patient is responsible for paying prior to his or her insurance making a payment.

Due to the contract you have with your insurance company, we are obligated to collect payment from you for your portion of the balance. All co-payments, co-insurance and deductibles must be paid at the time of service. This arrangement is part of your contract with your insurance company.

To bill your insurance accurately and in a timely manner, we will need assistance from you. We ask that you provide our office with accurate demographic information (address, phone number, etc.) and proof of insurance. All patients will be required to show proof of insurance and a Government issued photo ID.

# **INSURANCE CHANGES:**

If there are any changes in your insurance, you are required to call our office and give the detailed changes of your insurance at least forty-eight (48) hours to your appointment. If you fail to provide us with the correct insurance information in a timely manner, you may be responsible for the balance.

## **MEDICARE:**

We accept assignment with Medicare. Medicare pays 80% of their allowed amount after satisfaction of the yearly deductible. You are responsible for 20% of Medicare's allowed amount. All co-payments or deductibles are due and payable at the time of service.

# **SECONDARY & TERTIARY PLANS:**

We will bill your secondary insurance as a courtesy. We do not bill tertiary insurance. If you have supplemental insurance to cover the portion of the charges that Medicare or your primary insurance carrier does not pay, please provide us with a copy of this insurance card. Medicare and secondary carriers do not cover some procedures and supplies. Please make certain that you understand which aspects of your treatment are covered prior to proceeding.



# **Insurance & Financial Policy Cont.**

#### PREAUTHORIZATION:

Please remember that it is up to you to understand the requirements of your individual insurance plan and know whether prior authorization from your insurance company is required.

#### NON-COVERED SERVICES:

Any care not paid for by your existing company insurance coverage will require payment in full at the time of services are provided or upon notice of insurance claim denial.

## SURGERY & INJECTION FEES:

All co-pays, co-insurance, deductibles, and payments for non-covered surgical procedures are due prior to surgery. We will make every attempt to determine your coinsurance amount prior to your surgery. This will be based on your insurance benefits and an "estimate" of the services to be provided. We will provide you with that "estimate" & we will expect to collect that amount prior to the time of surgery. If any changes are made to the scope of services provided and the coinsurance amount has changed, we will either refund or bill you upon final resolution of your account. Fees are ultimately the responsibility of the patient, whether your insurance company pays or not, and are due within thirty days of your receipt of Southwest Pain Group statement.

## **NON-PAYMENT:**

Please be aware that patient accounts over 180 days without satisfactory payment will be turned over to a collection agency and patients will face possible termination from the practice. I authorize Southwest Pain Group to contact me via current and any future cellular phone number(s), email address, or wireless device(s) regarding my delinquent account(s) I owe to Southwest Pain Group. I authorize Southwest Pain Group and its agents, representatives, and attorneys (including collection agencies) to use automated telephone dialing equipment, artificial or pre-recorded voice or text messages and personal calls and emails, in their effort to contact me for purposes of collecting any portion of my account which is past due. I/We have read this disclosure and agree to the terms described above.

# **RETURNED CHECKS:**

A \$25.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks and we will report bad checks to the District Attorney's Office. We will be unable to accept your check for any services thereafter.

#### NO-SHOW/ MISSED APPOINTMENTS:

A scheduled appointment is a commitment of time between you and our practice, a time we have reserved just for you. If you are unable to keep a scheduled appointment, please cancel or reschedule your appointment at least 24 hours in advance to avoid a service charge and help us meet the needs of other patients. Patients who do not give a 24-hour cancellation notice will be charged a \$25.00 fee for office appointments and a \$50.00 fee for procedure appointments.

# CHILDREN OF DIVORCED PARENTS:

Responsibilities for payment of patients, who are minor children, whose parents are divorced, rest with the parent who seeks treatment.

#### **ACCOUNT BILLING QUESTIONS & REFUNDS:**

Questions or concerns regarding your account or insurance claim should be directed to our business office staff. If your account has a credit balance, we will promptly release a refund check to you once your insurance carrier has processed all pending insurance claims remaining on your account. If you feel an error appears on the statement or if you have any questions or concerns; please contact our billing office immediately at (214) 389-9130.

Printed Name	
Signature	Date



# **Payment Agreement**

Thank you for choosing Southwest Pain Group! First and foremost we are committed to the success of your medical treatment and plan of care. Please understand that payment of your bill is part of this treatment and care.

## **OFFICE VISITS & OFFICE SERVICES:**

Patient's health insurance plans stat that payments including co-pays and deductibles are to be collected for office visits at time of service. Upon request a member of our Business Office staff will review any deductibles and out of pocket expenses you are responsible for as outlined by your insurance plan. If you have not met your annual deductible you are expected to pay for services.

#### **DO I NEED A REFERRAL?**

No. We see many patients who have sought us out via the web, or from recommendations of other patients, friends or family. If you have an HMO plan you are responsible to have a PCP send a referral to our office. If a current referral is needed for your appointment you may contact your PCP to request the referral faxed to our office or you can sign a waiver that states you are responsible for today's services and provide full payment or your appointment can be rescheduled when the referral has been obtained. We will let you know when your referral has expired. It is the patient's responsibility to confirm that your health insurance is contracted with Southwest Pain Group since agreements change annually.

## **SURGERY & INJECTION FEES:**

Our office will complete any pre-certification or authorizations if required by your insurance company. A member of our Business Office will review any deductible and out of pocket expenses you will be responsible for as outlined by your insurance plan, we require that the patient responsibility is to be paid prior to the procedure being performed; this amount will depend on your policy. The amount you pay will be posted to your account as a pre-surgical deposit. We try our best to make the portion you are responsible to pay as exact as possible. However, please keep in mind the calculated amount is an estimated cost. Unfortunately there is always the possibility that after your insurance pays its portion we may owe you a refund or you may still have a balance due.

# **HOW MAY I PAY?**

We accept payment by Cash, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express or Check (with a copy of a valid driver's license or identification). Credit card payments are also accepted via telephone.

For your convenience, we have answered a variety of commonly asked financial policy questions below. If you need further information about any of these policies, please ask to speak with one of our Business Office Representatives.

IF YOU HAVE:	YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:
No Insurance/Self Pay	Payment is expected in full at time of service
	Southwest Pain Group does not file insurance claims for motor vehicle accidents.
Motor Vehicle Accidents	We DO NOT accept liens or Letters of Protection (LOP's). Payment is expected in
	full at time of service.
	Also known as indemnity, "regular" insurance or 80%/20% coverage. Payment of the
Commercial Insurance	"patient's responsibility" for all office visits and procedure will be expected at the
	time of your visit.
	If the services you receive are covered by the plan: All applicable co-pays and
HMO & PPO Plans	deductibles are requested at the time of the visit. If the services you receive are not
	covered by the plan. Payment is expected in full at time of service.



# **Payment Agreement Cont.**

IF YOU HAVE:	YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:
Point of Service Plan or Out	Payment of the "patient's responsibility" for all office visits and procedure will be
of Network Plan	expected at the time of your visit.
	We will file all claims to Medicare and any secondary insurance. It is your
	responsibility to provide our office with any supplemental insurance information.
Medicare	We will send you a statement for any charges not covered by Medicare and your
	secondary insurance.
	As a courtesy, we will bill your secondary or supplemental insurance. Once payments
Secondary/Supplemental	have been received from your insurance plans, any remaining balance is the patient's
	responsibility.
	If our office has received your claim information in a timely manner and
Worker's Compensation	authorization, no payment is necessary at the time of visit. If claim information
Worker's Compensation	and/or authorization has not been received payment in full is requested at the time
	of service.
MEDICAL IDENTITY THEFT PRO	OTECTION: In February 2009 Federal Trade Commission's Identify Theft Prevention Red
Flags Rule was enacted Media	ral offices are mandated to confirm the natient's identity and validate medical

MEDICAL IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION: In February 2009 Federal Trade Commission's Identify Theft Prevention Red Flags Rule was enacted. Medical offices are mandated to confirm the patient's identity and validate medical insurance coverage to ensure the identity theft has not occurred. To safeguard your identity, we will make a copy of your valid picture ID issued by a local, state or federal government agency (driver's license, passport, military ID, etc.) and a copy of your current insurance card to confirm your identity.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: I have read, understand and agree to the above Payment Policy. I understand that my co-payment, co-insurance and deductibles are due and payable at the time of service. I understand that charges not covered by my insurance company as well as applicable copayments and deductibles are my responsibility.

- "In the event that outside collection and/or legal cost are incurred by this office to obtain payment due, responsible party agrees that they will be liable for any costs incurred."
- I authorize my insurance benefits to be paid directly to Southwest Pain Group.
- I authorize Southwest Pain Group to release pertinent medical information to my insurance company when requested or to facilitate payment of a claim.

Date	Name of Patient (Print)	Signature of Patient or Guardian
Date	SWPG Representative (Print)	Signature of SWPG Representative



# **Communication Consent**

I authorize Southwest Pain Group to communicate via e-mail
at the following e-mail address:
regarding my patient care. I authenticate all communication between Southwest Pain Group and the above
e-mail address is from me. I approve all e-mail responses from Southwest Pain Group and grant full
disclosure of information to the above e-mail address. I understand and acknowledge that communication
over the internet is not secure, and that there is potential risk for compromise of personal and medical
information during internet exchanges. I hereby release Southwest Pain Group from all responsibility
related to exchange of personal and medical information via unsecured internet pathways.
Preferred method of communication regarding appointment reminders and follow-up care:
□ Email me at:
□ Call me at: ()
□ Text me at: ()
□ Fax me at: (
□ Mail me at:
□ Other:
□ Decline
Patient Name:
Patient Signature: Date:



# **Patient Questionnaire**

(PLEASE PRINT)

	Name	Relationship	Birth date//
	Name	Relationship	Birth date//
2.	Please list the family members or significant ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY:	others, if any, whom we may inform	about your medical condition
	Name	Relationship	Birth date//
	Name	Relationship	Birth date//
3.	Please print the address of where you would sent if other than your home:	d like your postcards and/or correspo	ondence from our office to be
4.	Please indicate if you want all corresponden  ☐ Yes ☐ No	ce from our office sent in a sealed e	nvelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL":
5.	Please print the alternative daytime telepho regarding your appointments, lab and x-ray		
		•	
	*I am fully aware that a cellular phone is no		
6.		ot a secure and private line.	
	*I am fully aware that a cellular phone is no	()	□ Yes □ No



# **Medication Policy**

# IN ORDER TO RUN OUR PRACTICE AS EFFICIENTLY AS POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN OUR MEDICATION POLICY:

1. We do not refill medications over the phone or by fax. Please come to your appointment with all of your pain medications in the actual bottles. Please remember, the medications we prescribe should be taken only as directed, and should last until your next appointment with our office.

It is our policy not to provide or refill medications early. If medications are taken more often than prescribed, or lost or stolen, they cannot be replaced.

- 2. If you have a change in your pain levels, we ask that you call immediately to make an appointment with our office. You will then receive an individual consultation as soon as our schedule will allow. These visits help us to closely monitor your condition and your response to medications.
- 3. We ask that our medication refill telephone line be used sparingly. Spending time answering pharmacy requests prevents us from caring for patients in the office.
- 4. Remember that your pharmacist is well-educated regarding medications and is a valuable resource for information.

Thank you very much for re	eviewing this policy.				
Last Name	First Name	have reviewe	d and u	nderstand	the
Medication Policy of South	nwest Pain Group.				
Patient Signature:		Date:	/	/	

8230 Walnut Hill Lane Suite 320

Dallas, Texas 75231 Dallas

9301 N. Central Expwy., Suite 200 Dallas, Texas 75231 4708 Alliance Blvd. Suite 850 Plano, Texas 75093

Office Phone: (214) 265-9991 Office Fax: (214) 265-0789



# **Guidelines For Chronic Narcotic Administration**

The successful management of chronic pain involves many modalities including, but not limited to, physical therapy, surgical consultation, injection therapy, stress reduction, biofeedback, and oral medications. Occasionally, upon the mutual agreement of the patient and the Pain Management physician, it may be necessary to institute long-term opiate administration to achieve satisfactory pain control. The following are guidelines that will be helpful in managing the long-term administration of narcotic medications. Prior to initiating this therapy, I would encourage you to read the following guidelines and discuss them thoroughly with the provider.

- 1. Patient agrees to fill prescription medications at one pharmacy only. This pharmacy will be responsible for all medications prescribed during treatment.
- 2. Medication prescriptions should be obtained only from the pain clinic office. "Doctor shopping" for additional pain medications from other physicians is discouraged, and if this occurs, will jeopardize the physician/patient relationship. Patients must make an office visit for their pain mediation refill. No refills are done over the phone or fax.
- 3. Please take only the amount of medication prescribed. Narcotic analgesics will hopefully make your pain more tolerable, but they should not be used to relieve stress or to promote sleep. If your pain worsens or if there is a change in your symptoms, please make an appointment to be seen in the office.
- 4. Lost or misplaced medications or their prescriptions will not be refilled at an early date.
- 5. Emergency Room visits for pain medication are discouraged. The Emergency Room is an inefficient way to achieve pain reduction and may involve a long wait and the risk that no medication will be dispensed. It is unlikely that the Pain Management physician will be available when you arrive in the Emergency Room.
- 6. Sedatives or "nerve medications" are rarely useful in chronic pain management and will rarely be prescribed.
- 7. Patient also agrees to continue with other modalities of chronic pain management as deemed appropriate by the referring physician and the pain clinic physician. This will most likely include but is not limited to: physical therapy, lifestyle and nutritional strategies, rehabilitation, psychology, pain management psychiatrist, re-evaluation by other specialists, relaxation therapy, counseling, and other methods to help handle the stress of chronic pain.
- **8. Patient authorizes Southwest Pain Group to obtain information** concerning medications prescribed, amount, and frequency from pharmacies and other physician offices.
- **9. Patient agrees to have a random drug screen** when ordered by a provider; as recommended by the team's medical board
- 10. Patient agrees to report to any Southwest Pain Group practitioner any problems with memory disturbance or difficulty in remembering how and when to take their medications.
- 11. Patient understands that an exit strategy is always sought if possible.

# NARCOTIC THERAPY - SIDE EFFECTS, RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS

The patient understands that narcotic analgesics may result in physical dependence that may ultimately require slow weaning once the pain condition improves. Immediate discontinuation of this medication is not advised. Tolerance to the medication may develop after long-term usage which means that ultimately these medications may become less effective. Other side effects may include...

- Respiratory depression resulting in respiratory arrest and/or death, as well as resultant cardiac arrest and/or death.
- Tolerance and/or physical dependence necessitating tapered discontinuation of the medications.
- Withdrawal phenomenon with abrupt discontinuation of the medication causing significant side-effects such as palpitations, diaphoresis, elevated pulse and blood pressure.
- Disorientation, resulting in falls and significant injury.
- Constipation and bowel obstruction, possibly requiring surgical intervention and potentially ischemic (dead) bowel, sepsis and death.



# **Guidelines For Chronic Narcotic Administration Cont.**

- Allergic and/or anaphylactic reactions to the medications resulting in hypotension, tachycardia, arrhythmias, respiratory or cardiac arrest, and death.
- Potentiation of other sedative medications causing additive and/or synergistic interactions and greater than expected or enhanced side-effects (see above list).

## **PRECAUTIONS**

- 1. Patients taking anticoagulants are at particularly high risk since any kind of trauma (falls,etc) could result in life-threatening hemorrhage, intracranial bleeding, and death.
- **2.** Extremes of age. The very young and the elderly may exhibit marked and dramatic side-effects from narcotic medications, even in low doses.
- **3.** Patients with other significant medical problems (heart or lung disease, other) are at increased risk for complications related to the use of narcotic medications.
- **4.** Patients taking sedative medications or central nervous system depressants should use narcotics sparingly and in reduced doses if absolutely necessary, due to additive and/or synergistic interactions and greater than expected or enhanced side-effects.
- **5.** It is especially important to keep your medications in a secure location, and preferably, under lock and key, to avoid others (including children) from obtaining access to these potentially deadly substances.
- 6. Narcotic analgesics should not be used during pregnancy.

#### WHAT NOT TO DO WHILE TAKING NARCOTICS

- Any kind of activity where judgment is required i.e. signing important documents, caring for the sick, the elderly, or the very young.
- Driving a car, motorcycle, truck or any motorized device
- Operating machinery
- Working in high-risk areas (i.e. construction sites, elevated work sites, working with power tools, etc)
- Drinking alcohol is prohibited while on narcotics due to potent and unpredictable enhancement of central nervous system depression of these two substances when taken together.

All questions were answered to the patient's satisfaction. The patient was encouraged to ask any additional questions or seek clarification for anything which was not clear in the guidelines.

I have read the above guidelines and will make every effort to follow these guidelines during my chronic pain management.

Signature of Patient:	_ Date:	/	 _
Printed Name:			

8230 Walnut Hill Lane 9301 N. Central Expwy., 4708 Alliance Blvd. Suite 320 Suite 200 Suite 850 Dallas, Texas 75231 Plano, Texas 75093

Office Phone: (214) 265-9991 Office Fax: (214) 265-0789



# Advanced Practice Nurse/Nurse Practitioner Consent

The Physicians of Southwest Pain Group want you to know that they employ Advanced Practice Nurses (who are also called Nurse Practitioners) to assist them in a "team approach" to their high quality delivery of medical care.

An Advanced Practice Nurse (APN)/Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a Registered Nurse who has received advanced education and training in the provision of health care. Advanced Practice Nurses/Nurse Practitioners are not doctors. APN's/NP's of Southwest Pain Group can diagnose, treat, and monitor routine and complex pain disorders. If you are seen by an APN/NP, your doctor will review your care with the APN/NP as part of the care plan.

I have read the above and understand that in this practice a "team approach" is used, with my unique problems and/or needs presented and discussed with one or more physicians in the development of my care plan. I also understand that typically one MD will direct my overall care, but that from time to time I may be seen by any or all the practitioners in this practice, including a Nurse Practitioner.

I hereby consent to the services of a Nurse Practitioner for my health care needs.

I understand that I can refuse to see the Nurse Practitioner, and request to see a Physician. understand that this may require my appointment to be re-scheduled.

$\ \square$ Please check this box to acknowledge that you have read and accept the above.		
Signature	Date	

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						Date:	_//_	
Last:		Fi	rst:			Date of Birth:	//	
Who referred y	you here?							
Height:	_ft inche	es Weight:		Please	shade in your a	reas of pain o	n the picture be	elow:
What problem	are you here fo	r today?			$\bigcirc$			
•	-	□ No □ No						
Date of onset (	first episode)?			1 17	1/1/		1/15/1	1
		isodes? (If yes, v		Tui		t t		lus
MOST SEVERE:  0 1 2 3 4  Rate your pain  0 1 2 3 4  Rate your pain  0 1 2 3 4  Have you ever  or a similar pro	5 6 7 8  on a scale of 1  5 6 7 8  on a scale of 1  5 6 7 8  had any procedoblem? □ No	(best) to 10 (wo 9 10 (best) to 10 (wo 9 10 ures (injections)	rst) <u>TODAY</u> : rst) <u>BEST</u> : ) for this	<b>proble</b> List		or surgery for □ Yes		r
Better	Worse	About the sam	-	,				
Location of the	greatest area o	of pain						
Do you have pa	ain that goes do	wn the arm or l	egs? □ N	lo □ Yes				
How would yo	u break down tl	ne components (		? (Total 100	0%)			
	%	Left Le		%	Right Leg:	%		
Neck:	%	Left Ar	m:	%	Right Arm:	%	Other:	%
How would vo	u describe the o	uality of the pai	in?					
□ Burning	□ Numbness	□ Dull		d needles	□ Stabbing			
□ Throbbing	□ Aching	□ Shooting	□ Electric	al	□ Stinging			
☐ Knife like	□ Sharp	□ Tingling	□ Tootha	che	□ Other			



In general over the past month is your pain worse in the:  Morning Afternoon Evening At night	No Specific tim	e Hardly ever		Other			
Do you have numbness or tingling? If yes, where?							
Are you able to control urination?							
Are you able to control bowel movements?   No  Yes							
Are you usic to control sower movements.							
How does the following affect your pain?	Please indicate	prev	ious t	reatn	nents an	d results:	
Worse No Better	Troube marcure						
change		ied	4)	d		rati	pur
Lying down		Not Tried	Worse	No help	Some help	Moderate help	Profound help
Standing		No	Wc	No	Sor hel	Mod	Profe help
Sitting	Bed Rest						
Walking	Anti-						
Exercise	inflammatory						
Going to work	Muscle						
Medication	relaxants						
Relaxation	Narcotics						
Cooking	Heat						
Twisting	Ice						
Sex	Physical						
Climbing stairs	Therapy						
Walking down a hill	Chiropractic						
Coughing & sneezing	Injections						
Bending over	Pain Clinic						
Arching your back				l l		•	
Urination	Other:						
Bowel movements							
Past Medical History	_Please circle all th	at app	ly				
Bronchitis Chronic Chronic Wounds Conge Diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2) DVT (leg clots) Emphy Headaches Heart Burn, Reflux Heart High Blood Pressure High Cholesterol HIV/A Osteoporosis Pulm Emboli (lung clots) Seizur	gestive Heart Failure ohysema rt Disease /AIDS ures Stomach Ulcers ary Tract Infections		Atrial Fibrillation Coronary Disease Gastrointestinal Bleeding Hepatitis (A,B,C) Kidney Stones Stroke			Bipolar Disorder Depression Glaucoma MI/Heart Attacks	



# Please list any other Past Medical History

# Past Surgical History (indicate date if known)

Appendectomy **Bariatric Surgery Cervical Decompression Lumbar Decompression** 

**Cervical Spinal Fusion Lumbar Spinal Fusion** Thyroidectomy

**Bowel/Stomach Resection** Coronary Bypass Gall Bladder

**Pacemaker** Tonsillectomy **Cardiac Stents** Cataracts **Heart Valve** Hysterectomy

Scoliosis Thoracic Decompression

# Please list any other Past Surgical History

# **Family Medical History**

GM = Grandmother, GF = Grandfather, M = Mother, F = Father, S = Son, D = Daughter Coronary Disease Example: Mother with Coronary Disease

GM, GF, (M), F, S, D

**Angina** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Thoracic Spinal Fusion** 

Anxiety

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Arthritis** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Asthma** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Atrial Fibrillation

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Bipolar Disorder

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Bronchitis Chronic** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Congestive Heart Failure GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Coronary Disease** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Depression

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

DVT (leg clots)

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Emphysema

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Gastrointestinal Bleeding** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Glaucoma

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Headaches

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Heart Burn, Reflux

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Heart Disease** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Hepatitis (A, B, C)

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

High Blood Pressure GM, GF, M, F, S, D

High Cholesterol

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

**Kidney Stones** 

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

MI/Heart Attacks

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Pulm Emboli (lung clots)

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Seizures

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Stomach Ulcers

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Stroke

GM, GF, M, F, S, D

Thyroid Disease (Low or High)

GM, GF, M, F, S, D



# **Genetic Abnormalities**

Please list any genetic/birth abnormality history Example: Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease	None					
Social His	cory/Habits					
Work: □ Employed □ Unemployed □ Retired □ Disabled						
Current Occupation Former Occupation						
Marital Status:   Married   Single   Divorced   Widowed   Domestic Partner						
Alcohol:   None   Yes How many drinks/dayfrequency/weekWhat kind						
History of Alcohol abuse? □ No □ Yes						
•	How many/day Since					
	kind How many/day					
Do you exercise? □ No □ Yes If yes, how much?						
	de? □ No □ Yes If yes were you treated? □ No □ Yes					
History of opiate misuse or abuse? □ No □ Yes If yes were you treated? □ No □ Yes						
Alla	rgios					
Alle Please list any allergies	<b>rgies</b> No Known Drug Allergies					
	_					
	_					
Please list any allergies	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					
Please list any allergies  Med	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					
Please list any allergies  Med	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					
Please list any allergies  Med	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					
Please list any allergies  Med	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					
Please list any allergies  Med	No Known Drug Allergies  cation					



**REVIEW OF SYSTEMS:** Please draw a circle around any symptoms or conditions in this section that you currently have, or had in the past. If your symptoms or conditions are not in the list, please write it in.

<b>J</b> enerai	
anemia	

anemia
bleeding disorder blood
clots
phlebitis
psoriasis or other
skin problems
osteoporosis
arthritis
neck pain
low back pain
sciatica
HIV or AIDS
Other

#### Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat:

loss or change of vision eye pain or redness excessive watering of eyes double vision loss of hearing buzzing or noises in ears ear infection or drainage hoarseness excessive sneezing blocked nasal passages nosebleeds frequent running nose difficulty swallowing Other\_\_\_\_\_

#### Respiratory:

wheezing
large quantity of sputum
bloody sputum
excessive cough
pneumonia
tuberculosis
shortness of breath with
little exercise or at rest
night sweats
pain with breathing
emphysema
asthma
Other\_\_\_\_\_

## Cardiovascular:

chest pain abnormal or fast heartbeat abnormally low blood pressure calf cramps with walking excessive sensitivity of fingers/toes cold varicose veins rheumatic fever high blood pressure heart murmur fibrillation heart attack frequent and marked swelling of ankles and feet Other

**Gastrointestinal:** digestion difficulties frequent nausea or vomiting bloody vomitus lack or loss of appetite frequent stomach or abdominal pain frequent belching frequent loose bowel movements recurring diarrhea blood in the stool hemorrhoids or piles gallbladder trouble frequent or severe constipation persistent anal itch diabetes hepatitis jaundice ulcers hiatal hernia pancreatitis anemia

Other\_\_\_\_

### **Genitourinary:**

urinary incontinence
or dribbling
blood in urine
increased frequency
of urination
chronic urgency or
urination
difficulty starting/passing
urine
painful urination
narrowing of urinary
stream
flank pain
and excessive urination

# (Male patients only):

Penile pain infection or sores abnormality of testicle(s) scrotal swelling varicocele prostatitis tricture sterility difficulty in sexual functioning Other\_\_\_\_

**Female Patients Only:** breast discharge breast swelling or lumps breast pain painful menses breast infection nipple changes or irritation vaginal pain vaginal infection vaginal discharge or itch known uterine fibroids/tumors tubal infections abnormality of menstruation flow infertility or difficulty in becoming pregnant marked changes in body hair distribution difficulty in sexual functioning

Other:\_\_\_

Date of last menstrual period:
Number of
pregnancies:
Number of live
births:
Is it possible that you are
pregnant? (if so
please notify Doctor)

# **Neurological:**

Severe or frequent headaches unusual head or neck tension strokes dizziness fainting spells seizures/fits/convulsions shaking or twitching spells paralysis of limbs frequent or constant numbness tingling of body parts severe lapses of memory blackouts Other:\_\_\_\_\_

## Emotional or Psychological:

**Psychological:** emotional illness depression excessive worry insomnia recurrent feelings of loneliness or hopelessness severe tension feelings of worthlessness recurrent fear nervous exhaustion frequent crying nervous breakdown frequent nightmares hysterical attacks constant unhappiness Other: \_\_\_\_\_



This Questionnaire has been designed to give us information as to how you pain has affected your ability to manage everyday life. Please answer every section and mark only the **ONE** box that applies to you.

## **Pain Intensity:**

- o The pain comes and goes and is very mild
- The pain is mild and does not vary much.
- The pain comes and goes and is moderate.
- o The pain is moderate and does not vary much
- o The pain comes and goes and is very severe.
- The pain is severe and does not vary much.

#### **Personal Care:**

- I would not have to change my way of washing or dressing in order to avoid pain
- I do not normally change my way of washing or dressing even though it causes some pain
- Washing and dressing increase the pain, but I manage not to change my way of doing it
- Washing and dressing increases the pain and I find it necessary to change my way of doing it
- Because of the pain, I am unable to do some washing and dressing without help
- Because of the pain, I am unable to do any washing and dressing without help

# Lifting:

- I can lift heavy weights without extra pain.
- o I can lift heavy weights, but it causes extra pain.
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor, but I manage if they are conveniently positioned (e.g., on a table)
- o Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights, but I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned.
- o I can only lift very light weights at the most

#### Walking:

- I have no pain on walking.
- I have some pain on walking, but it does not increase with distance.
- I cannot walk more than one mile without increasing pain
- o I cannot walk more ten ½ mile without increasing pain
- $\circ$  I cannot walk more than ¼ mile without increasing pain
- o I cannot walk at all without increasing pain.

# Sitting:

- I can sit in any chair as long as I like
- o I can only sit in my favorite chair as long as I like
- o Pain prevents me from sitting more than one hour
- o Pain prevents me from sitting more than ½ hour
- o Pain prevents me from sitting more 10 minutes
- I avoid sitting because it increases pain right away

#### **Standing:**

- o I can stand as long as I want without pain
- I have some pain on standing, but it does not increase with time
- I cannot stand for longer than one hour without increasing pain
- I cannot stand for longer than ½ hour without increasing pain
- I cannot stand for longer than 10 minutes without increasing pain
- o I avoid standing because it increases the pain right away

#### Sleeping:

- I get no pain in bed
- I get pain in bed, but it does not prevent me from sleeping well
- Because of pain , my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than ¼
- Because of pain, my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than ½
- Because of pain, my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than ¾
- o Pain prevents me from sleeping at all.

### Social life:

- My social life is normal and gives me no pain
- o My social life is normal, but increases the degree of pain
- Pain has no significant effect on my social life apart from limiting my more energetic interests, e.g., dancing, etc.
- Pain has restricted my social life and I do not go out very often
- o Pain has restricted my social life to my home.
- o I have hardly any social life because of the pain

# **Traveling:**

- o I get no pain while traveling
- I get some pain while traveling, but none of my usual forms of travel makes it any worse
- I get extra pain while travelling, but it does not compel me to seek alternative forms of travel
- I get extra pain while traveling, which compels me to seek alternative forms of travel
- Pan restricts all forms of travel
- Pain prevents all forms of travel except that done lying down

## **Changing degree of pain:**

- My pain is rapidly getting better
- My pain fluctuates, but is definitively getting better
- My pain seems to be getting better, but improvement is slow at present
- My pain is neither getting better nor worse
- My pain is gradually worsening
- My pain is rapidly worsening