



## OPIOID (NARCOTIC) PRESCRIPTION POLICY

We understand that physical pain is interpreted differently among all of us and we are sensitive to the fact that many of our patients present to us with physically painful conditions. However, it is also our duty as physicians to minimize harm to patients. Narcotic addiction is a national epidemic. Physicians have been placed on the front line of managing this epidemic and are held accountable. In order to protect our patients and maintain our professional standing, OrthoLoneStar, PLLC and its wholly owned subsidiaries and affiliates have an established policy for prescribing narcotics.

- Narcotics will not be prescribed for chronic pain conditions; however, they can be prescribed for acute conditions at the discretion of the treating physician.
- If you are under the care of a pain management physician, we expect you to disclose this information on your first visit. Failure to do so would violate your contract with your pain management physician.
- Narcotics will be prescribed post-operatively for a maximum of six to eight weeks depending on the type of surgical procedure performed.
- Prescriptions for narcotics will be dispensed in accordance with the Texas Prescription Monitoring Program. They may not be "called in" to your pharmacy.
- Your prescription history will be reviewed prior to the prescribing of any narcotic medication, pursuant to the Texas Prescription Monitoring Program.
- If you are taking narcotics prescribed by a pain management physician, you will need to receive your post-operative pain medicine from that physician.
- Long-term pain medication needs will require a referral to another physician, such as a pain management physician or primary care provider.
- Refills may take up to three days to process, so you must call well in advance. No refills will be authorized after hours or on weekends. NO EXCEPTIONS. On-call physicians are not authorized to refill narcotic pain medication. You may be asked to come to the office to be reevaluated prior to receiving a refill.
- Lost, damaged or stolen prescriptions will NOT be replaced.
- All medications are to be used as prescribed. Adjustments or increases in the amount of medication should not be done without discussion with the prescribing provider.
- Adverse reactions are to be reported to the physician's office immediately.
- Combining narcotic pain medications may have unrecognized or unpredictable interactions with other pain medications.
- Operating heavy equipment or driving is not permitted when using narcotic pain medications.

We have created this policy to ensure the health and safety of our patients. We appreciate your cooperation.