



Patient Name: _____

DOB: _____

Date: _____

Medication / Narcotics Policy and Agreement

Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center is dedicated to offering advanced and comprehensive care for disorders of the musculoskeletal system. The management of pain associated with these disorders is an integral part of that care. In the acute period following injury and/or surgery, pain may be effectively managed with short-term use of narcotic medications. These medications, while potent agents for pain management, also carry with them a risk of dependency, addiction, and medical complications. Our primary concern is your safety and recovery. Your healthcare provider will determine and prescribe the dose and duration of pain medications needed. As a patient, you are responsible for following the prescribing instructions and safeguarding your medications from loss and theft. The goal of this therapy is to decrease pain and increase your ability to work and function, thereby improving your quality of life.

The purpose of the Policy and Agreement is to prevent any misunderstandings regarding medications you may be taking for pain control, or other reasons, while under our care at Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center. This Policy and Agreement is to help both you and your healthcare provider comply with the law regarding controlled pharmaceuticals. This Policy and Agreement is essential to the trust and confidence necessary for an appropriate healthcare provider/patient relationship.

Your treating healthcare provider at Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center may prescribe narcotic pain medication for you to address your clinical problem for a brief period of time, generally not exceeding four to six weeks. Narcotic medications beyond this timeframe (chronic narcotic use) will not be managed by Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center. Patients with chronic pain management needs will be referred to their primary care provider and/or to an integrated and comprehensive pain management center.

You must take your medication only as prescribed. Supplementation, early refilling of your prescription, requesting narcotic prescriptions from any other healthcare provider or practice, narcotics or prescriptions taken from family or friends, or overuse/abuse of medications may subject you to immediate dismissal from our practice.

Narcotics are highly addictive pain medications that can create side effects such as lethargy, drowsiness, dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, altered consciousness, sedation, slowed reflexes, slowing of respiratory rate, physical dependence, addiction, and constipation. Abrupt discontinuation of these medications may result in withdrawal symptom. Due to these potential side effects, you should not drive or operate heavy machinery, operate a motor vehicle, work in hazardous areas, or be responsible

to care for another individual who is unable to care for him/herself while taking these medications. You could cause harm to yourself or others.

Many narcotics, such as oxycodone and hydrocodone, contain acetaminophen (Tylenol), which if taken in high doses can cause liver failure or even death. Narcotics need to be taken only as directed.

If you require a refill on your medication please contact your pharmacy. We require a 48 hour notice for all refills. No narcotic medications will be renewed after 2 p.m. on Fridays, nor on weekends, holidays, or after regular working hours by on-call medical personnel. Prescriptions will not be refilled outside of normal office hours because the covering healthcare provider or staff may not know you or your condition, and medical records may not be easily accessible. Please count your pills regularly and plan ahead for refills.

Narcotic medications may not be renewed if stolen or lost until the original prescription has expired.

I agree to the following and understand I may be discharged from Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center if I break any of these conditions:

- I will not get or attempt to get pain medication from any person or healthcare provider not authorized by my Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center healthcare provider.
- I will not use medication in a way that is not prescribed.
- I will not exhibit deceitful behavior nor provide false information.
- I will not make calls after hours to obtain medication.
- I will not sell or give my medications to any other person.

I, _____, acknowledge that I have read all pages and agree to comply with Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center Medication / Narcotics Policy and Agreement. I understand that failure to follow this Policy and Agreement may result in my being discharged from Flathead Valley Orthopedic Center and could risk prosecution as directed by state or federal agencies.

Patients Signature _____ Date: _____

Or

Guardians Signature _____ Date: _____