

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY AND SPORTS MEDICINE**

**NARCOTIC PAIN MEDICATION AGREEMENT**

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine (here after Ortho) may prescribe narcotic pain medication to our patients as part of an overall treatment plan in order to reduce pain to a tolerable level and improve their ability to perform daily activities. While these medications can be beneficial in managing your pain on a time limited basis, they are also controlled substances regulated by the DEA as well as Kentucky State Law and can have serious medical, legal and social consequences if used inappropriately. Use of controlled substances should be discontinued after the acute medical complaint is resolved.

As a patient, it is important you understand that daily use of a narcotic increases certain risks, which include but are not limited to:

- Allergic reactions, overdose and/or fatal complications
- Drowsiness, dizziness or confusion
- Impaired judgment and inability to operate a motor vehicle or heavy machinery
- Nausea, vomiting, decreased appetite, or constipation
- Sexual difficulties including impotence or diminished sex drive
- The medicines used to treat pain may lead to addiction, dependence, or abuse. This can put you at greater risk for these problems:

You crave the drug or cannot stop using it even though you think you want to stop

Withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking the drug

Loss of your job or your family

Arrest for possession of an illegal substance or driving under the influence

Injuries to yourself or others while you are in a car, at work or at home

HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases

Severe and fatal infection of the heart valves

Stroke, heart attack, hepatitis B or C, kidney or liver failure

Safe use of narcotic medications:

- Your provider has given you explicit directions regarding the dosage (number of pills) and frequency for which you are to take your medication. These medications have the potential for, dependency, abuse, excessive sedation, constipation, severe organ failure and even death if taken inappropriately or more frequently than prescribed. It is extremely important that you take these medications only as prescribed.
- Do not combine these medications with any other narcotic or non narcotic pain medications unless specifically instructed to do so by your care provider.
- Do not combine these medications with any other sedatives or muscle relaxers unless specifically instructed to do so by your care provider.
- Your prescribed medication may also contain Tylenol/Acetaminophen therefore do not take any additional Tylenol/Acetaminophen while you are taking these medication unless specifically instructed by you care provider.
- Do not drive or operate heavy or dangerous machinery while taking medicine that makes you drowsy
- Before you take pain medicine, tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to get pregnant. This could harm your baby
- Tell your doctor if you breastfeed. Pain medicine in breast milk may be bad for your child.
- Store your medicine in a safe place. This will keep others from taking your medicine and help you keep track of it. Lost or stolen medication will not be replaced.
- Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of unused drugs.
- Call 911 or seek medical attention immediately if you or your family member develop any of these signs or symptoms:

Signs of withdrawal: nervous, anxiety, trembling, sweats, diarrhea, hard to sleep

Chest pain

Unexplained fever over 100.4°F (38.0°C)

Feel very drowsy or cannot be waked from sleep

Slow breathing under 8 breaths per minute

**I agree to the following guidelines and understand that:**

1. The physicians in Ortho do not manage chronic pain (Pain symptoms lasting > 90 days from the time of your injury or surgery). If I have a chronic pain condition I will seek help from my primary care physician or appropriate pain management specialist.
2. I will take this medication only as prescribed and will not change the amount or frequency without authorization from my orthopaedic physician.
3. Due to the high potential for abuse of these medications, I will not be allowed to obtain early refills or receive replacement of lost or stolen medication.
4. Most prescriptions will be dispensed only after a scheduled office visit. On occasion, certain medications may be prescribed over the phone which may take up to 72 hours to process the request.
5. I will notify my physician in Ortho of an emergent need to see another physician (e.g. dental procedure, surgery) that may require or have required a change in my controlled substance dose.
6. While under the care of and orthopaedic physician, I will not obtain or attempt to obtain narcotic pain medications from any other physician.
7. If I am still experiencing uncontrolled and significant pain, I will need to be evaluated in the Ortho clinic or emergency room.
8. I will submit to a urine/blood screen if requested by my physician to assess my compliance.
9. I understand that under State Law, my physician may periodically obtain a KASPER report to monitor patient compliance in medication usage and formulate related treatment plans.

**Disposal of Unused medications**

The FDA recommends utilizing a community "Take-Back program" if no such program is available mix unused medications with kitty litter in a sealed plastic bag and dispose in household trash. Remove all labels from prescription bottles before disposing of container separately.

I have read this document and discussed the risks, benefits and alternatives to narcotic treatment with my provider. If I do not follow these guidelines, I understand that my treatment may be terminated. I have had an opportunity to ask questions and receive answers to those questions to my satisfaction.

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**Patient Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Patient Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**