

**COASTAL ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES, INC.**

**MEDICATION / NARCOTICS POLICY**

Thank you for choosing Coastal Orthopedic Associates for your orthopedic needs. We may prescribe appropriate narcotic pain medication for certain acute injuries and postoperative care. Narcotics are considered safe when used appropriately, but side effects may occur, as well as potential risk of an addictive disorder developing.

Narcotic pain medications include, but are not limited to: Vicodin, Lortab, Percocet, Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Oxycontin.

Narcotics are highly addictive pain medications that can cause 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 symptoms. 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.

Your primary care physician will ultimately manage your medication regimen. It is best if one physician oversee the management and prescribing of your medication. Our office is not a chronic pain management clinic. We will, however, discuss your regimen and offer suggestions as necessary with your primary care provider.

**The following conditions MUST be met:**

- You must maintain the dosing schedule prescribed by our office. Any changes must have prior approval from your provider.
- You must notify us if you are receiving narcotic medication from any other physician at the same time we are prescribing these medications.
- You understand that prescriptions that are lost, stolen, accidentally disposed of, or consumed before the appropriate date will NOT BE REFILLED.
- We will NOT provide prescriptions after office hours or on weekends. NO EXCEPTIONS.

*You further understand that you will be discharged from the Practice at the discretion of the physician if:*

- You use more medication than prescribed (run out early)
- You receive pain medication from any other person or physician not authorized by your Coastal Orthopedic Associates physician
- You use the medication in a manner that it was not prescribed
- You exhibit deceitful behavior or provide false information
- You make repeated telephone call to the office or after hours to obtain medication
- You sell or give your medications to another person
- You alter a prescription
- Use multiple pharmacies without your physician's knowledge

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read the Medication/Narcotics Policy of Coastal Orthopedic Associates and I agree to comply with these rules. I understand that failure to follow these rules will result in my being discharged from the practice and risk prosecution as directed by state and federal laws.

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_