

Frank Castillon, III, M.D.

Medication Regulations

This office diagnoses and treats neurosurgical conditions. We may prescribe medications for the management of your symptoms. These medications, when properly taken, are expected to help patients feel better and be more functional. Some of the medications we prescribe have abuse potential which may cause harm to patients and others. The *State of Texas Department of Public Safety* (TX DPS) and the *Federal Drug Enforcement Agency* (DEA) regulate the prescription and use of medications. Our office follows those laws and regulations. Our policies are as follows:

- 1) Written prescriptions for controlled substances and pain medications will not be replaced if lost, misplaced, or stolen.
- 2) Prescriptions are to be taken as directed. **Patients do not have the right to increase the amount or frequency of medication** doses unless directed to do so by Dr. Castillon, one of his staff members, or a physician covering (on-call) for Dr. Castillon. Changes to medication use will be documented in your office chart for accuracy.
- 3) Certain controlled substances such as hydrocodone (Norco), Oxycontin, Oxycodone, Percocet, MS Contin, Fentanyl, or Dilaudid, are classified as Class II narcotics and their prescription is highly regulated. These medications can only be written for a 30 day supply. Refills are not legal, nor can these medications be called in or faxed to a pharmacy. A pharmacist will require a new written prescription each month. Therefore, if you are running low on these medications, you need to contact our office for an appointment if we are the prescriber. If we are not the prescriber, contact the prescribing physician's office directly.
- 4) Some medications may be refilled for up to several months at a time or longer, depending on the type of medication. These are medications with little or no abuse potential. Prescriptions and refills for pain medications and other controlled substances will only be given for a limited time, and only for certain patients. In some cases, if you have not been seen in our office relatively recently, you will be required to make an appointment to discuss receiving a new prescription. In such cases, requests received over the phone or by fax from your pharmacy will be denied.
- 5) If you are running low on your medications, unless they are the highly regulated Class II medications (see #3 above), please contact your pharmacy to send us a refill request. Depending on your standing with our office (see #4 above) we may refill your medication or deny the request with a comment sent to the pharmacy if there is a denial.
- 6) **Refills will not be authorized outside of office hours.** In other words, refills will not be authorized at night, on weekend, or on holidays. It is every patient's responsibility to manage your medications and plan ahead for refills.
- 7) **Refills for medications written by any provider outside of our office will not be authorized.**
- 8) If you believe you may be pregnant, discover that you are pregnant at any time, or plan to become pregnant, it is your responsibility to inform this office immediately for directions concerning your medication use.
- 9) Patients who have Pain Management Providers prior to, or since treating with our office, may be directed – at any time while treating with our office – for referral back to that provider to take over medication management.
- 10) Patients who need continuing prescriptions may – at any time while treating with our office – be referred to a Pain Management Provider or to their PCP for medication prescriptions and management.
- 11) It is unlawful for a patient to obtain or refill a controlled substance (narcotic pain medication) for another person, use someone else's medication, or obtain multiple prescriptions/refills from more than one provider (physician, clinic) without notifying the providers. **Violation of this policy is grounds for immediate discharge from our care.**

I have read the above policies regarding prescription medications, and I agree to the terms.

Signature

Date