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CEC Pain Management Policy

Patient's Agreement - Current Edition as of Summer 2010

In an effort to provide the best care for you, we have provided general guidelines of our pain management agreement at the Center for Endometriosis Care. It is our commitment to help you have the most comfortable post-operative transition possible within the safe guidelines that are provided below:

1. Post-operative pain management is intended to cover an interval of 90 days. After this period, if pain persists and post-operative complications are not apparent, pain management will be shifted to appropriate 'pain management specialists' while any further investigations and/or referrals are made.
2. Once 'pain management specialists' are involved, they will control all narcotic and analgesic drug prescribing in order to offer the very best care. At this time, a note will be placed in the patient's chart to document that further pain management will be under the authority of these specialists, and CEC personal will refer patients to these specialists for ongoing care in this area.
3. All medications must be taken exactly as instructed and that Patient may not change the dosage amounts or alter the time schedule of taking the medication without first consulting with the physician.
4. Narcotics should be prescribed by only one physician's office and that only one pharmacy should be used for filling narcotic prescriptions.
5. The CEC will NOT refill lost or misplaced narcotic prescriptions.
6. Prescriptions for narcotics will NOT be mailed to patients.
7. During the 90 post-op days, patients must make requests for narcotic refills ***during regular office hours*** in order to allow for chart review and insure proper documentation. Calls for medication will be accepted from the Patient only, not family members. Please be aware that *narcotics and other prescriptions will not be phoned in after hours on weekdays, after 12 on Friday, or on the weekend.*
8. Follow up visits may be required from the physician (or emergency room) in order to obtain a refill.
9. Patients should not operate heavy equipment or drive a motor vehicle while using narcotics and that these medications should not be combined with alcohol. Patients may be terminated from the practice with (30 days notice) for noncompliance in taking medications including altering or forging narcotic prescriptions.

I have read and understand the policies listed above:

Signature

Date

CEC Pain Management Policy
Physician's Responsibility

1. Either the physician or nurse must document all prescriptions for pain medication in patient office chart.
2. Patients should not be allowed to e-mail physicians directly for pain medications – instead, patients are instructed to call the office and speak with the nurse.
3. CEC staff should be referring patients to ‘pain management specialists’ for continuing management, if the patient’s narcotic needs exceed the 90-day immediate post-operative period.
4. If the caring MD believes that a special needs patient has appropriate reasons for the CEC to continue to provide narcotic/strong analgesic medications beyond 90 days, it can be presented to and approved by the other CEC medical staff. The reasons and approval will then be documented in the patient’s chart.
5. There must be proper documentation in chart of the following:
 - a. All prescriptions for pain medication (including dosage, medication strength, quantity)
 - b. Assessment regarding patient progress, management plan, and limits
 - c. Referrals made and requested
6. Percocet 7.5/500 or 10/500 should be written 1-2 tablets q 4-6 hours not to exceed 8 tablets/day (due to acetaminophen toxicity).

Updated 06/07/2010