**THUNDER BASIN ORTHOPAEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE**

Policy Regarding Narcotic Medications

Welcome to TBO to all new patients; for all existing patients, thank you for your support and patronage for the past several years. Because of newer and stricter guidelines, imposed by the state of Wyoming and the Wyoming State Pharmacy Board, regarding the prescription use of narcotics and the documentation thereof, the physicians and other providers at TBO are compelled to provide this list of guidelines for your understanding and compliance.

1. TBO is an orthopaedic clinic facility, not an emergency room or pain clinic. Patients are seen on a scheduled basis, but a referral is not necessary. If you have a physician who is managing your pain issues, he/she will continue to do so and you will need to advise us of this upon completion of initial paperwork. TBO will send a copy of our office notes and recommendations to that physician if you request.
2. The narcotic medications will be prescribed for **Severe Pain Issues Only** at the provider’s discretion. These include patients who have suffered fractures or dislocations, undergone surgery, or have been involved recently (less than 3 months) in an acute trauma. The patient should provide the date and/or documentation of this trauma.
3. Refills for narcotic medications must be requested prior to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, excluding holidays. The providers will review this request upon notice within 48 hours during the week. **In other words, you should call for a refill at least 48 hours before your supply runs out.** If you call for a refill on a Friday, it is probable that your request will not be addressed until the following Tuesday.
4. Drug seeking behavior, either documented or suspected by the physician, may be grounds for immediate restriction of all narcotic prescriptions from TBO. This behavior includes, but is not limited to: Calling after-hours for narcotic refills; receiving simultaneous narcotic prescriptions from providers other than the staff at TBO; failure to comply with substitute, non-narcotic medications or therapies; failure to notify the provider of previous narcotic dependence/addiction; and taking pain medication in excess of the prescribed dose and regimen.
5. Refills will **NOT** be given in the case of “lost”, stolen, inadvertently flushed, or otherwise destroyed medications. **Please Keep Your Prescription and/or Medication In A Safe or Otherwise Restricted Area.**
6. Under no circumstances will TBO refill narcotic medications longer than **three months**. If further narcotic management is deemed necessary—either by the patient or the provider, a referral to a pain clinic or pain management specialist will be made.
7. Complying with Wyoming State Law, narcotic prescriptions will only be written for up to a 7 day supply at a time.
8. Benefits of the narcotic medication will be evaluated regularly using the following criteria: increase in general function, increase in life activities, improvement in pain intensity levels, possible return to work and maintenance of a job.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read, understand, and will comply with all of the guidelines listed above concerning narcotic medications.

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Patient Signature Date

\*\*\*You as the patient have the right to request a copy of this signed agreement at any time\*\*\*