

Consent/Risk:

I, _____ authorize and direct my provider and/or associates or assistants of his/her choice to prescribe controlled substances (CS):

Like all medications, CS have potential for both benefit and harm. Potential benefits and harms are listed below, so you can determine if the prescribed medication is suitable for you at this time.

Possible Benefits: Minimized pain, improved mobility and movement.

Possible Risks: Addiction, physical dependence, and tolerance.

Possible Side Effects: Constipation (common and persistent), nausea and vomiting (usually only in first few days), reduced production of testosterone (may cause reduced libido and fertility in men), reduced production of estrogen and progesterone (may cause periods to stop, reduced libido and fertility in women), excessive sweating, weight gain, swollen ankles/legs, sedation, drowsiness, clouded thinking, sleep apnea, paradoxical worsening of (hypersensitivity) to pain (also known as hyperalgesia).

Addiction: Addiction is a disease that occurs in some individuals. Taking opioids does not necessarily cause addiction, however, if you have risk factors for addiction (such as strong family history of drug or alcohol abuse) or have had problems with drugs or alcohol in the past you must notify the prescribing provider since using strong painkillers will put you at greater risk. The extent of this risk is not certain.

Physical Dependence: Abruptly stopping the CS can create withdraw symptoms.

Tolerance: The body becomes “used to” the CS and it may be less effective.

Risk of CS Exposure to Fetus: Newborn Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) is a group of conditions caused when a baby withdraws from certain drugs (usually opioids) when exposed to in the womb before birth.

Treatment Plan and Alternatives: The CS is prescribed in a limited quantity and has been prescribed following a patient visit with a provider. The CS is warranted given the patient’s condition. In addition to CS prescription, you are recommended to pursue non-pharmacologic treatment for pain, including but not limited to, psychotherapy and physical therapy (as approved by your provider). Over the counter option, non-opioid analgesics heat and cold therapy are other options.

Proper Use, Storage, and Disposal of CS: Take CS only as directed by the person for whom the prescription is written. Keep all CS in a safe place in the childproof containers. CS that are expired or unused, can be taken to a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Substation. Disposal in anonymous and drop-off boxes are located inside substations, providing secure method for disposal. If you are unable to get to one of the drop off locations, or if you have a small amount of medicine to dispose of, placing outdated or unneeded medications in the garbage in a sealed bag is the safest way for the environment.

Patient Risk Assessment and Score:

Mark each box that applies		Scoring (Risk)
1. Family history of substance abuse:		
Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	0-3 Low Risk
Illegal Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	4-7 Moderate Risk
Prescriptions Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	≥ 8 High Risk
2. Personal history of substance abuse:		
Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	
Illegal Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	
Prescription Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
3. Age (mark box if patient is 16-45 years old)		<input type="checkbox"/> 1
4. History of preadolescent sexual abuse		<input type="checkbox"/> 3
5. Psychological disease:		
ADD, OCD, bipolar, schizophrenia	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	
Depression	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	
Total (add scores from each questions):		

Agreement:

The following terms must be acknowledged and adhered to for all medication prescriptions. Failure to adhere to the terms may result in discontinuance of medication and/or dismissal from the practice.

- Medications should be taken exactly as prescribed. Do not change the medication dosage and/or frequency without the approval of the provider.
- The CS prescribed is being given in order to control pain and improve function. If there are any significant changes to activity level or physical condition, the treatment may be changed or discontinued. Patients are responsible for notifying provider of such changes.
- Patients with multiple conditions that require the prescription of a CS (narcotics, tranquilizers, barbiturates, or stimulants) will be asked to coordinate all medications with one prescribing physician, including any medication needed for a neurosurgical condition.
- CS must be handled responsibly, including protecting and limiting access to prescribed medications, and to dispose of any unused medication in a proper manner. CS will not be shared or given out to anyone other than the patient.
- Stolen or lost prescriptions or pills will not be replaced. Please take appropriate precautions.
- There may be times when medications will need a refill between office visits. Please have the pharmacy submit refills requests to the office at least 3 days before your medication runs out. Refill requests will only be taken on Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Medications will not be refilled after hours or on weekends. If you have uncontrolled pain during a weekend, medical care should be sought from an emergency room or immediate care center.
- The goal is to taper or discontinue the CS as medical conditions improve. If medical conditions do not improve, the provider may recommend additional conservative treatment, invasive neurosurgical procedures or referral to a pain management specialist for management of medications.
- It is essential that only one physician monitor and evaluate the use of CS. Patients must not accept or seek CS from any other physician or health care provider outside of this practice, including their primary care physician (NRS 453-391). It is required that one single pharmacy or pharmacy chain be used for all prescriptions. This is required to make certain that medications are known by a pharmacist to evaluate any concerns about interaction of medications.
- Use of illegal and/or recreational drugs, especially while also taking CS, is extremely dangerous and potentially lethal. CS can also interact with over-the-counter medications and other prescribed medications, especially cough syrup that contains alcohol, codeine or hydrocodone. Inform the provider of all medications being taken.
- Altering a prescription in any way is against the law. Fabricating prescriptions or forging a provider's signature is also against the law. Understand that The Spine and Brain Institute cooperates fully with law enforcement agencies in regards to infractions involving prescription medications. Violations of law will be reported to pharmacies, local authorities, and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

Pharmacy Name/Cross Street: _____ **Phone:** _____

I have read this consent and agreement. I fully understand the risks, benefits and alternatives of taking controlled substances. I fully understand the terms of this agreement.

Patient Name

D.O.B.

Patient Signature or Surrogate (If patient unable to sign)

Date