

Pain Specialty Center of Ventura County
1752 S. Victoria, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 644-4930

Medication Policy

The physicians and staff of the Pain Specialty Center are concerned with your comfort and safety. We realize that the discomfort caused by injuries or illness can be quite distressing and we want all of our patients to experience minimal pain.

The medication policy at The Pain Specialty Center is designed to enhance patient safety and the appropriate use of medication. We have established certain guidelines concerning the use and the prescribing of pain medications. Despite our desire to relieve your pain, medication carries the potential for addiction, habituation, and unintentional abuse. It is our policy that each patient should have only the minimum amount of medication possible.

We recognize that many patients have pain for months or even years. Thus, a large part of our pain control strategy is to help you learn other ways of controlling your pain, so that you do not become dependant on drugs.

On your first visit, please bring all medications you are currently taking, along with your medical records.

Your PAIN medication can be managed only by one doctor (all other medication should continue to be prescribed by the primary physician.)

That doctor may be your treating doctor, your family doctor, or your doctor at The Pain Specialty Center. If it comes to our attention that you are getting pain medications from another doctor as well as your doctor at The Pain Specialty Center, we will need to terminate our relationship with you as an established patient.

** When pain medication must be used, it is important for you to monitor your medication use and anticipate how much medication you may need in the weeks ahead. We prescribe medication in a two week to one-month supply. It is very important that you take the medication as prescribed. If for any reason you feel that the medication is not working and you need to increase your dose **you must call the office**. This will notify the Dr. that you are needing to increase your dose and it will be documented that you may run out of medication before it is due to be refilled. If we are not notified of this, the medication cannot be refilled until it is due.

For long term medication management and triplicate prescriptions, baseline and routine lab work may be ordered at random. Two week or One-month refills will then be written to your designated pharmacy. A follow up visit must be made in order to refill any opioid/ narcotic or muscle relaxer medications. **We do not refill any of these medications by phone or fax.** This appointment **MUST** be kept. If you are unable to keep ANY scheduled appointment we require at least 12-hour notice, otherwise there will be a charge of \$25.00.

Prescriptions will not be released earlier than your appointment date.

This office will not be held responsible for lost or stolen medication. If this occurs your prescription cannot be refilled until the indicated time.

This policy is designed to balance the needs of severe pain relief with the risk of medication. If you have any questions concerning our philosophy on the use of medication, or questions about these guidelines, please discuss them with your doctor or physician's nurse.

My signature below indicates that I understand and received a copy of the medication policy of The Pain Specialty Center of Ventura County, regarding medication prescriptions and refills. I have also been advised and understand the potential complications of medication.

Office use only

Patient has read and verbalizes understanding	Nurse reviewed with Patient, verbalized understanding
_____ Nurse Signature	_____ Date

Patient Signature & Date

Witness

Pharmacy