



## **USC Center for Spinal Surgery**

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### **Medication Refill Protocol**

A medication refill protocol for all patients has been implemented. The specific protocol is outlined below. All patients are requested to execute an acknowledgement that they have read the protocol and agree with its provisions.

All clinic personnel have reviewed the protocol set forth below will implement it. Unless the physician personally consents to a request for a deviation for the protocol, it will be followed explicitly.

1. All medication requests will be refilled 48 hours after the request has been received from their pharmacy. As a general rule, the original prescription should include a one-month supply of the medication.
2. All medications are to be taken as prescribed. If a patient takes medication in excess of what is prescribed and runs out of the medication early (prior to the refill date), the refill will not be authorized early. If they have questions or problems with the medications, they should be directed to the nurse.
3. Medications that require triplicate prescriptions are not issued by this office (i.e. Dilaudid, Percocet, etc.).
4. In general, if a patient is already being treated by a pain management physician, all medications will need to be managed by the patient's existing pain management specialist.
5. Medication refill requests will be denied if requested prior to the expiration date of the original amount of the medication. If a patient is going on a vacation, business trip, etc., then an early renewal of the prescription may be authorized on a patient-by-patient basis.
6. Without advance written authorization from the doctor, a patient who has not been examined within the preceding 90 days and is requesting renewals of medication. These medication renewals will not be refilled.
7. In connection with certain medication, patients may be requested to have a blood test every three months to allow continued usage of some medications.

8. If a decision is made to deny a patient's request for a telephone refill of a specific medication, the patient must be notified by telephone as soon as possible and given the basis upon which the requested refill will not be supplied. Written notification should be sent to the patient as well. In both the telephone conversations and the written documentation, the patient should be directed to schedule an appointment for examination in order to insure that the medication the requested is, in fact, still the appropriate medication for their condition.
  
9. Telephone call for medication refills placed on clinic days, Tuesdays and Wednesdays will not be followed-up until Thursdays. Therefore, the patients need to constantly monitor the amount of medications they have left and not wait until they are out of medication before calling for refills.

I have read and understand the outlined protocol and agree to its provisions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATIENT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME/ DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK J. SPOONAMORE, M.D.