

CONSENT FOR OPIOID THERAPY

Dr. Rajesh Patel is prescribing a narcotic medication, called _____

to me for the pain problem in my _____

We are using narcotic pain killers because other treatments have not helped and my pain is a ____ on a scale of 1 to 10 (with 1 being no pain and 10 being unbearable pain). It causes me to _____ or keeps me from doing _____

My doctor talked to me about other types of treatment for pain, including: _____

HOW WELL DO PAIN KILLERS WORK: My doctor has told me that this narcotic pain killer will not make my pain disappear and will probably only make my pain about 25% better.

PROBLEMS WITH NARCOTIC PAIN KILLERS: My doctor has also told me that one out of two people who try narcotic pain killers decide not to take them because of the problems associated with their use. Problems include sleepiness, constipation, upset stomach, vomiting, itching, dizziness, rashes and slowed response times. Other more serious problems that narcotic pain killers can cause are slowed breathing, addiction and hospitalization for stomach or breathing problems.

ACTIVITIES TO AVOID ON NARCOTIC PAIN KILLERS: If my medicines are making me sleepy or uncoordinated, I will not drive, climb ladders or get on roofs or other high places. I will not operate equipment like lawn mowers, chain saws and other potentially dangerous machinery. I will not take care of children or other dependent persons when my medications are making me sleepy or groggy. Sleepiness and slow reaction times can be most noticeable during the four to five days after starting or increasing the dose of narcotic pain killers.

THE CONCEPT OF WITHDRAWAL: After taking the narcotic pain killer for less than two weeks, my body can get used to it and if I stop taking it, I can experience "withdrawal." Withdrawal from narcotic pain killers is not life threatening, but can make me very ill. Withdrawal causes flu-like symptoms including severe abdominal cramps, diarrhea, vomiting, chills, extreme body aches and a runny nose.

THE CONCEPT OF ADDICTION: No one knows why people become addicted to medicines like narcotic pain killers, but my doctor informed me that if I or a family member has a history of addiction my chances of having addiction problems in the future are increased. Addiction is when use of a medicine is out of control and when I want to take the medicine just to take it and not because my pain requires it. I agree to be honest with my doctor when Dr. Patel asks me if I or my family have or have had addiction problems.

MEDICINES THAT AFFECT NARCOTIC PAIN KILLERS: I understand that I should never take medication from friends or family, or get pain medication from anyone other than Dr. Rajesh Patel. My doctor has told me that medicines called nalbuphine (brand name Nubain), pentazocine (brand name Talwin), buprenorphine (brand name Buprenex) and butorphanol (brand name Stadol) can reverse my pain relief and put me in instant "withdrawal" if I take them. If I go to an ER and look like I took too much medicine, the doctors may give me naloxone (brand name Narcan), which would cause the same effect.

I understand that I should not drink alcohol and take narcotic pain killers together as narcotics and alcohol can increase the effects of each other (make me more groggy, sleepy or intoxicated.)

THE CONCEPT OF TOLERANCE: I can become "tolerant" (sometimes people say "immune") to my narcotic pain killers. This means the pain killer no longer decreases the pain. My doctor might suggest increasing, changing or even stopping my narcotic pain killer. Also, my doctor may have to stop my narcotic pain killers if I start to have side effects or problems with the medication.

IMPORTANT POINTS:

(For Men) The use of narcotics may lower testosterone (male hormone) levels and change my mood, stamina, interest in sex and ability to have sex. My doctor may need to check my blood levels.

(For Women) If I am or get pregnant, I need to call my pain doctor and obstetrician immediately. If I take narcotic pain killers while I am pregnant, my doctor has told me that my baby will be born dependent on narcotics. Narcotic pain killers do not generally cause birth defects but I know that my baby could have birth defects whether I am on medicines or not.

I need to tell my doctor about other medicines I am taking or new medical problems that I have. For example even cold and flu medicines can interact with my narcotic pain killers.

I have: () read this form or. () _____ read it to me.

I understand what this form says.

I have had the opportunity to ask questions about taking narcotic pain killers for my pain.

I GIVE MY PERMISSION TO BE TREATED WITH NARCOTIC PAIN KILLERS AND I AM SIGNING THIS FORM VOLUNTARILY.

Patient's Signature _____

Name _____

Date _____

Witness _____