

A division of Eastern Carolina Anesthesia Associates, PLLC

## **Clinic Policies & Procedures**

- Midtown Pain & Spine Clinic is a CHRONIC PAIN clinic. We do not address acute pain issues. If you have new acute pain or a pain emergency over a weekend, please contact your Primary Care Physician. You may also seek care at the nearest Urgent Care or Emergency Room.
- Please arrive on time for all appointments. We require consultation appointments to arrive 30 minutes prior to the appointment to allow time for the intake process. Established patients who arrive more than 15 minutes past their appointment time will be rescheduled to the next available appointment. No refills will be provided for missed appointments until the next office visit. Reoccurring missed appointments may lead to dismissal from the practice.
- New consultations may be seen by Dr. Weber or by one of our Advance Practice Providers. They work in a team approach and consult with Dr. Weber on treatment plans.
- We perform urine drug testing at the initial consultation. Medications will not be prescribed at the initial consultation until your care is established with our clinic and we see you for a follow up visit.
- Refills will NOT be provided during a procedural visit or over the phone. Refills will only be provided during in clinic face-to-face appointments. Early refills will only be considered under extenuating circumstances. Lost or stolen medications will not be refilled until the next refill date. Alternative non-narcotic suggestions for pain management may be provided.
- Medications must be taken only as prescribed. Do not take more medication than prescribed for any reason. Failure to take medications as ordered can lead to dismissal from the practice.
- If you receive narcotic medications from us, you cannot receive narcotics from any other provider. Receiving controlled substances from multiple providers can lead to dismissal from the practice.
- Any requested paperwork may be completed at the provider's discretion and at a separate visit.
- We cannot send narcotic prescriptions to out of state pharmacies. If you are going out of town and require a refill while away, you must make arrangements with our clinic to accommodate your needs.
- Please allow at least 24-48 hours for a return call from our office. For questions regarding scheduling or rescheduling appointments, please call 984-272-4028.
- Please be advised you may be called for a random pill count. If so, you will have until the end of the business day to bring in all prescribed medications. Failure to do so may lead to dismissal from the practice.
- Our treatment plans include a multi-modality approach. We will always discuss the pros and cons of the treatment options but ultimately it is the patient's choice.
- We routinely do not prescribe nor recommend narcotic medications in addition to Benzodiazepines due to risk of overdose and death.

## **Drug Screening**

- We perform drug screening at every new consultation appointment and periodically for established patients when they are being prescribed controlled substances or whenever deemed appropriate by our providers.
- Drug screening is typically performed by collecting a urine sample but may also be performed by using an oral swab.
- Drug screening is used to enhance the relationship between healthcare professionals and patients by providing documentation
  of adherence to mutually agreed-upon treatment plans and provides valuable objective information to assist in diagnostic and
  therapeutic decision-making. It is also used to assess compliance, by looking for the presence of prescribed medications as
  evidence of their use.

- The concurrent use of multiple drugs, whether prescribed or not prescribed, can be very dangerous and needs to be addressed by your provider. Drug screening provides an objective assessment of a patient's actual pharmaceutical regimen and is an essential tool in providing the safest and most effective care to our patients.
- Your urine sample or oral swab will be sent to an outside laboratory for confirmatory toxicology testing. This testing is to confirm the preliminary drug screen results that we receive in the office. You agree that you are submitting this specimen voluntarily. This outside laboratory is not associated with Midtown Pain & Spine Clinic in anyway.
- This laboratory will bill your insurance for the testing performed and you will be responsible for any amount not covered by your insurance. This testing may apply to your deductible, coinsurance or copay.
- Your results will be kept confidential with both our office and the laboratory.
- This testing is essential to treatment and any delay in testing may also result in a delay in treatment.

I have read, understand and agree to all the above Clinic Policies and Drug Screening requirements.

Patient Signature:	Date:
--------------------	-------