

# Pain Management in our Emergency Department

Our staff understands that pain relief is important when someone is hurt or needs emergency care. However, providing ongoing pain relief is often complex. We recommend this be done through your primary health care provider such as your family doctor or pain management specialist. Because mistakes or misuse of pain medication can cause serious health problems and even death, it is important that you provide accurate information about all medications you are taking.

**Our Emergency Department will only provide pain relief options that are safe and appropriate. For your safety, we follow these guidelines when managing chronic pain:**

1. We are trained to look for and treat an emergency or urgent condition. We use our best judgment when treating pain and follow all legal and ethical guidelines.
2. We typically do not prescribe narcotic pain medicine for chronic pain if you have already received narcotic pain medication from another health care provider or emergency or acute care facility.
3. We may contact your primary care provider to discuss your care. Typically, we will not prescribe narcotic pain medicine if we cannot talk directly with your primary care provider. If you do not have a primary care provider, we will provide you with a list.
4. We may provide only enough pain medication to last until you can contact your primary care provider. We will prescribe pain medication with a lower risk of addiction and overdose whenever possible.
5. We will ask you to show a valid photo ID (like a driver's license) when you check into the Emergency Department or before receiving a prescription for narcotic pain medication. If you do not have a photo ID, we may take your picture for the medical record.
6. We may ask you to give a urine sample before prescribing narcotic pain medication.
7. Healthcare laws, including HIPAA, allow us to request your medical record and share information with other health care providers who are treating you.
8. Before prescribing a narcotic or other controlled substance, we check the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) or a similar database that tracks your narcotic and other controlled substance prescriptions.
9. For your safety, we do not:
  - a. Routinely give narcotic pain medication injections (shots or IV) for flare-ups of chronic pain
  - b. Refill stolen or lost prescriptions for narcotics or controlled substances
  - c. Provide missing Subutex, Suboxone, or Methadone doses
  - d. Prescribe long-acting or controlled-release pain medications such as OxyContin, MSContin, Duragesics, Methadone, Exalgo, and Opana ER.
10. Frequent users of the Emergency Department may have care plans developed to assist in improving their care. The plans may include avoiding medicines likely to be abused or addictive.
11. If you need help with substance abuse or addiction, please call this toll-free number for confidential referral to treatment between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday: 1-800-788-7254.

It is against the law to attempt to obtain controlled substance pain medicines by deceiving the health care provider caring for you. This can include getting multiple prescriptions from more than one provider or using someone else's name to obtain a prescription.



- Mount Carmel East Hospital
- Mount Carmel New Albany
- Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital
- Mount Carmel West Hospital

- Doctors Hospital
- Dublin Methodist Hospital
- Grady Memorial Hospital
- Grant Medical Center
- Marion General Hospital
- Riverside Methodist Hospital

- James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute
- University Hospital
- University Hospital East
- Ross Heart Hospital
- OSU Harding Hospital