

Tricity Pain Associates Opioid Therapy Statement

Tricity Pain Associates is deeply invested in providing you with the highest quality care guided by maximizing patient safety and improvement in pain. Furthermore, our goals are to improve your activity, functionality, and safety while utilizing safe and effective treatment modalities that mitigate risk and maximize benefits. Our team of dedicated healthcare professionals will assist you in meeting our collective goal of reducing risks associated with opioid therapy, also known as narcotic medications. We strictly adhere to the DEA recommendations in connection with prescribing opioid medications and will only prescribe opioid medications when deemed clinically appropriate by your treating provider, and only when other reasonable modalities have failed or are contraindicated.

Numerous research studies have indicated that high dose opioids, especially in the presence of other sedating medications (benzodiazepines), pose a greater risk of opioid related complications, including but not limited to: significant respiratory depression, overdose, and death. To date, there are no high quality long-term studies that reliably show improvement in functionality, and activity with long-term high dose opioids.

If you suffer from chronic pain, our providers are extremely successful in treating a wide variety of pain syndromes. We utilize a personalized, comprehensive, and multidimensional approach to pain management guided-by compliance with our opioid therapy statement and 12 step compliance checklist. Our team of highly dedicated clinicians develop a personalized, compassionate, and tailored treatment strategy to deliver the best overall care experience by way of utilizing the latest technology and treatment regimens specific to each pain issue.

Opioid Therapy – 12 Step Checklist

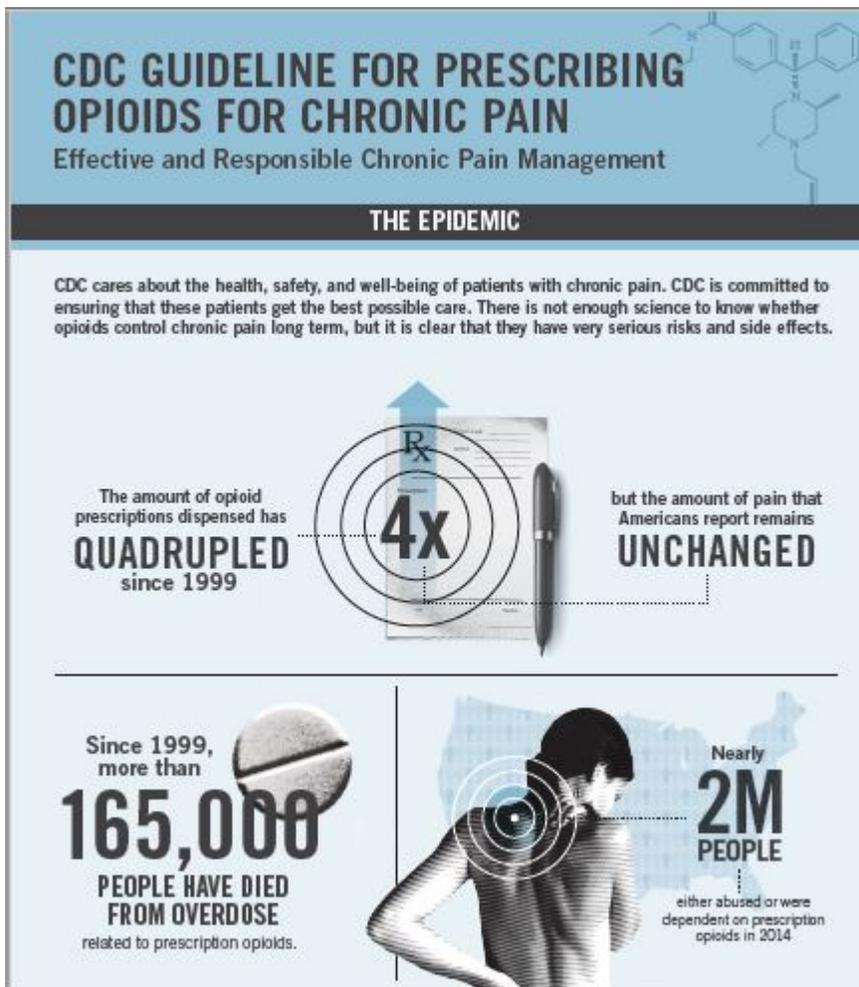
For opioid use, patients must have:

1. Assessment of pain (0-10 scale)
2. Current and updated medication list
3. Review and documentation of patient's social history, including substance abuse history
4. Review of recent Prescription Drug Monitoring report
5. Physical examination of painful areas
6. Ongoing discussion and documentation of risks and benefits of opioid therapy,
7. Established goals of opioid treatment and reviewed goals (e.g., patient wants to have an increased ability to function)

8. Clear documentation of rationale for opioid use (e.g., chronic lower back pain or degenerative disc disease)
9. Clear documentation of beneficial clinical response to opioid use (e.g., decrease pain or increase function)
10. Current and consistent urine drug test based upon patient risk stratification
11. Patient has signed a Controlled Substance Agreement
12. Patient should have tried and failed other reasonable treatment regimens

Before starting and periodically during continuation of opioid therapy, clinicians will evaluate risk factors for opioid-related harms. Clinicians should incorporate into the management plan strategies to mitigate risk, including considering offering naloxone when factors that increase risk for opioid overdose, such as history of overdose, history of substance use disorder, higher opioid dosages (≥ 90 MME/day), or concurrent benzodiazepine use, are present

The Provider will continue to re-evaluate the need for current medication dosage, and may warrant opioid reduction, or taper as clinically indicated.



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