

B3 Requests for repeat scripts for drugs of dependence

Purpose

To inform patients about practice policies regarding repeat prescriptions for drugs of dependence.

Example policy

[insert practice name]

Date effective:

Review date:

REQUESTS FOR REPEAT DRUG OF DEPENDENCE PRESCRIPTIONS

Patients should be aware of their responsibilities in requesting prescriptions for drugs of dependence. These responsibilities are explained in the practice 'Opioid prescribing policy for patients' and in the 'Patient agreement for drugs of dependence therapy'.

Patients should note the following:

- All requests for repeat scripts for drugs of dependence will go to your usual doctor.
- Requests may require a clinical review by your doctor. If it appears to your doctor that there is no improvement in your daily function or quality of life from these medications, your doctor will suggest weaning and discontinuing the medication.
- As a patient you understand that your usual doctor reserves the right to perform random or unannounced urine drug testing, and you agree to comply with this testing. This is a safety issue.
- Patients are responsible for their prescriptions. Lost prescriptions will not be replaced.
- Repeat prescriptions are generally written for a maximum of one-month's supply and will be filled at the same pharmacy.
- Patients have the responsibility to schedule appointments for the next opioid prescription before leaving the clinic or within three days of the last clinic visit. No walk-in appointments for medication refills will be granted.
- Patients have the responsibility for keeping medications in a safe and secure place, such as a locked cabinet or safe. If medications are lost, misplaced, or stolen your doctor may choose not to replace the medications or to taper and discontinue the medications.
- Patients have the responsibility for taking medications as directed and understand that increasing the dose without the close supervision of your doctor could lead to the cessation of prescribing. Early requests for repeat scripts will not be performed.