

SPINE AND PAIN CENTER OF SAN ANTONIO

Dear Patients of Spine and Pain Center of San Antonio

Due to pressure from various state and federal regulatory agencies, physicians and clinics who specialize in prescribing opioid-type pain medications for chronic pain are now essentially required to have a program of screening patients on these medications to make sure they are compliant with their therapy and are not misusing or abusing the prescribed medication or other substances. All of our patients are required to sign a Controlled Substance Informed Consent and Treatment Agreement

Your Controlled Substances Informed Consent and Treatment Agreement provides for drug compliance testing. Screening situations may include, but are not limited to:

- new patient visits
- initiation of Controlled medication
- first visit after initiating new medication therapy
- after changing medication doses
- if patient exhibits any questionable medication behaviors such as requesting early refills, lost or stolen prescriptions, increasing medications without authorization from the physician, missed appointments
- quarterly audits.

To best achieve this screening, we have partnered with one of the leading laboratory service providers in the country, Aegis Sciences Corporation. They will oversee the testing and their employees will be working in our clinics to collect the fluid specimens.

Controlled medications will NOT be prescribed to any patient without appropriate testing and results from Aegis Sciences Corporation.

Please note the following important information:

- Aegis Sciences Corporation will report the results of your testing directly to Physical Medicine and Pain Management Associates.
- Your medical provider may be required to communicate the results of any testing with your other medical providers (as with any other lab testing).

Aegis Sciences Corporation will bill directly your health insurance plan for your lab test. Aegis will accept the health plans reimbursement as payment in full with the exception of your health plans defined co-payment, coinsurance and/or deductible. The cost of the testing may vary as it is based on each patient's medication treatment. Should you receive an explanation of benefits from your insurance, please call Aegis first to discuss the charges. Aegis offers a Financial Assistance Program in the event that payment for the test would present financial hardship. Any concerns or questions you may have about your Aegis bill or explanation of benefits (EOB) from your insurance company should be directed Aegis at 1-866-496-7052. They will be happy to work with you within your circumstances. **Initials** _____

Please be assured of our ongoing efforts to provide you with safe and effective pain management care that is compliant with accepted medical standards.

Please be prepared to provide a urine sample at each visit

Patient Signature _____ Date _____