

## **Bend Spine and Pain Specialists Material Risk Notice for Controlled Substances**

I have recommended treating your condition with a controlled opioid medication. Goals for this therapy include increased function and decreased pain.

The use of controlled substances associated with certain risks that may include the following:

1. Central nervous system: depression, sleepiness, decreased mental ability, confusion and irritability. Avoid using alcohol while taking these medications. Your ability to make decisions may be impaired such that you are unable to safely drive or operate machinery.
2. Respiratory: slowing of breathing is possible, wheezing.
3. Gastrointestinal: nausea, vomiting, and constipation (these may be severe).
4. Skin: Itching and/or rash.
5. Drug interactions: possible interactions with or altering the effect of other medications.
6. Tolerance: Increasing doses of drug may be needed over time to achieve the same pain relieving effect.
7. Physical dependence and withdrawal: Physical dependence develops within three to four weeks. In most patients receiving daily doses of opioid medications if your medications are abruptly stopped, symptoms of withdrawal may occur. These include nausea, vomiting, sweating, flu-like symptoms, abdominal cramps and abnormal heart beats. Discontinuation of any controlled substance requires a slow taper.
8. Psychological dependence and addiction: Refers to abnormal behavior directed towards acquiring or using drugs in a non-medically supervised manner. Patients with a history of alcohol and drug abuse are at increased risk for developing addiction.
9. Potential acute reactions: Allergic reactions are possible as with any medication.
10. Urinary retention: Difficulty urinating.
11. If the medication causes **drowsiness, sedation, or dizziness**, I understand that I **must not drive a motor vehicle or operate machinery** that could put my life or someone else's life in jeopardy. I agree to take full responsibility for my actions while taking these prescribed medications.