



SAINT LUKE
MEDICAL CENTER

Dear:

We always want to provide excellent care to you during your emergency department visit. Excellent care means that we perform a thorough examination based on your medical problem and offer appropriate and/or necessary treatment in a kind, respectful and compassionate manner.

It has come to our attention that you often visit the emergency department for the treatment of a chronic pain condition. The ongoing treatment of a chronic pain condition in the emergency department setting is not a strategy that results in a good long term outcome or relief. It is in your best interest to have a single physician or nurse practitioner manage the treatment of your chronic pain.

We have established a policy for all chronic pain patients that requires you to work with your physician or nurse practitioner in outlining a treatment plan that the emergency department can follow. When you receive this letter, we ask that you schedule an appointment with your physician or nurse practitioner to discuss the treatment of your chronic pain. Your physician or nurse practitioner will develop a plan that limits the number of emergency department visits each month for your chronic pain condition. This contract will be followed at all times by all medical providers that you see when you visit the emergency department.

Until we receive a pain contract from your primary physician or nurse practitioner, you will not receive any narcotic treatments or prescriptions from us in future visits for the treatment of your chronic pain condition. Please make the effort to schedule an appointment with your physician or nurse practitioner to create a pain contract. Your physician or nurse practitioner will then send us the agreed to pain contract and we will keep this plan on file.

This pain contract does not apply to any other non-chronic painful medical condition that you seek treatment for in the emergency department.

By working with your doctor or nurse practitioner, we can coordinate the best strategy for managing your chronic pain.

Effective Date:

Sincerely,
Jason Bitner RN

Troy Cutler MD