



Pain Medication Policy for Patient Safety

At UMC we are concerned about the epidemic of substance abuse and addiction to narcotic pain medications in Las Vegas. Because of this, the UMC Emergency Department has instituted the following policy in regard to the prescription of narcotics by our emergency physicians:

1. We will **NOT** prescribe or **REFILL** methadone.
2. We will **NOT** replace any lost or stolen narcotic prescriptions.
3. We will **NOT** rewrite narcotic pain medications prescribed by other physicians or at other hospitals.
4. We will **ONLY** prescribe narcotic pain medications for acute conditions and will use those that have limited potential for abuse and diversion.
5. We will **ONLY** prescribe enough pain medication to last until the patient can see their primary care physician.
6. We do **NOT** prescribe additional pain medications after the first Emergency Department visit. (An exception may be made only after a repeat exam, a urine drug screen and direct contact with your regular doctor.)
7. We will **ONLY** use non-narcotic pain medications for chronic, nonmalignant conditions.
8. We will **REVIEW** the Nevada Prescription Monitoring Program database before prescribing narcotics.
9. **ALL** patients receiving narcotic prescriptions should present valid photo identification before the prescription will be issued.