

## New Patient Information

### Chronic Opioid and Controlled Substances Policy

For your protection, Orchid Health follows state and local prescribing guidelines for safely prescribing controlled substance medications (opiates, benzodiazepines and stimulants):

- Controlled substance medications will not be prescribed at your first clinic visit.
- Your previous medical records *must be received and reviewed* prior to the prescription of controlled substances.
- Medical records must be sent directly from your previous clinic to Orchid Health electronically or via fax (hand carried copies are not acceptable).
- If you currently take a daily opiate, benzodiazepine, or stimulant medication you can request a “bridge” prescription from your previous prescribing clinician until your assessment is complete.
- Orchid Health clinicians will not prescribe chronic opioid medications above 60 MED (“daily morphine equivalent dose”) for non-cancer related pain. If you are on a chronic opiate dose higher than this you will need to taper down before establishing care with Orchid Health (your previous prescriber can help you with this taper).
- To determine if chronic opiate use for non-cancer pain is appropriate, your assessment at Orchid Health will include a review of previous records and may include the administration of questionnaires regarding functional level, depression, anxiety, addiction risk and sleep quality. This information will be used to determine if continuation of chronic opiates is medically appropriate. We may determine that chronic opioid prescribing is not appropriate.
- A non-narcotic prescription trial may be required prior to any opioid medication being prescribed.
- A Controlled Substance Agreement, which allows for random urine drug screening, must be signed before the prescription of controlled substances by Orchid Health providers.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, *have read the above information and acknowledge understanding of the Orchid Health New Patient Controlled Substance Policy.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date