

Checklist: Chronic Pain Management Patient Documentation – Initial Assessment

The following elements are present in the medical record

A. Complete a comprehensive patient evaluation:

- Chief complaint
- Chronologic history of the development of the present pain
 - Location
 - Quality
 - Severity
 - Timing
 - Context
 - Modifying factors and associated signs and symptoms
- Review of systems including
 - Evaluation of the effect of pain on physical and psychological function
 - Past medical history to include past experiences, illnesses, operations and treatments
 - Family history: pain complaints, degenerative disorders, drug or chemical dependency, alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, anxiety and other psychological disorders
 - Social history
- Evidence of review of patient's past medical records
- Order tests as appropriate
- Document impression and diagnosis in the patient's medical record
- Assess and document the patient's potential for addiction

B. Develop and document a treatment plan:

- One or more indications for the use of a controlled substance are listed
- The value of other treatment modalities
- Objectives used to evaluate the success of the prescribed treatment plan are listed
 - Address pain relief
 - Address improved physical function
 - Address psychosocial function; indicate other recommended treatment modalities
- Indications for diagnostic tests ordered
- Referrals for consultations

C. Informed consent for treatment that includes drug therapy:

- An explanation of the recommended drug therapy
 - Its risks
 - Its benefits
 - Its alternatives
 - Explained to the patient's satisfaction

- ___ The patient
 - Demonstrated capacity
 - Given the opportunity to ask questions about the recommended drug therapy
 - Questions answered to the patient's satisfaction
- ___ The patient has given consent

D. Controlled Substance/Chronic Pain Control Agreement

- ___ The provider's policy when prescribing controlled substances for chronic pain management
 - The patient's consent to random drug screens
 - The requirement for random pill counts
 - The clinician as the single source of controlled substances
 - The pharmacy specified
 - The patient's written informed consent to release the contract to local emergency departments and pharmacies and for those clinicians to report contract violations to the treating provider
- ___ Patient education
 - Prescription management
 - Security of medications
 - The risk of physical dependence
- ___ Opioid therapy discontinuance
 - Treatment goals not met
 - Contract violation
 - Illegal activity and notification of proper authorities
 - Acknowledgement of patient understanding

E. Follow-up appointment

- ___ Initial 14 day follow-up appointment
- ___ Documentation supports an initial follow-up appointment greater than 14 days

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