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## **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AGREEMENT**

The purpose of the acknowledgment is to protect your access to controlled substances and to protect our ability to prescribe for you.

Medications may not be replaced if they are lost, get wet, are destroyed, left on an airplane, etc. If your medication has been stolen, please file a police report regarding theft and notify the office.

Prescriptions need to be called into the office at least 48 hours prior to refill requests. This will allow ample time for the response of your request to be handled in a timely manner with nurses and physicians. If you call in the prescriptions after hours or, on the weekends, the request will be handled the next business day and given up to 48 hours for refills.

For continuation of prescribed medication, you must be seen within a three (3) month period. It should be understood that any medical treatments are initially a trial, and that continued prescription is contingent on evidence of benefit, or as recommended by your physician.

All controlled substances should be obtained at the same pharmacy, where possible. Should the need arise to change pharmacies, our office must be informed. You are expected to inform our office of any new medications or medical conditions, and of any adverse effects you experience from any of the medications that you take.

The long-term use of such substances as opioids (narcotic analgesics), benzodiazepine tranquilizers, and barbiturate sedatives is controversial because of uncertainty regarding the extent to which they proved long-term benefit. There is also the risk of an addictive disorder developing or of relapse occurring in a person with prior addiction.

These drugs have potential for abuse or diversion, strict accountability is necessary when use is prolonged. Multiple sources can lead to untoward drug interactions or poor coordination of treatment. All controlled substances must come from the physician, or during his or her absence, by the covering physician, unless specific authorization is obtained for an exception.

You may not share, sell or otherwise permit others to have access to these medications. These drugs should not be stopped abruptly, as an abstinence syndrome will likely develop. It is expected that you will take the highest possible degree of care with your medication and prescription. They should not be left in reach of children or any person who is not tolerant to their effects.

If the policy is not adhered to or violated, this could be grounds for dismissal from the practice.

**\*\*\*Please sign and date the "Bluewater Orthopedics, PA Policies Acknowledgement" page to indicating that you have received, understand and acknowledge the "CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AGREEMENT" policy of BLUEWATER ORTHOPEDICS, PA.\*\*\***