



# Managing the Chronic Pain Cosmetic Patient & Prevention of Opioid Overdosing

When faced with a chronic pain patient on opioids, give special consideration to the patient's medication history and possible cross reactivity that can occur with other peri-operative medications and/or anesthetic agents. The following actions are helpful in navigating your chronic pain aesthetic patient through the peri-operative period and preventing opioid overdosing:

1. Request a list of their current medications.
2. Consider obtaining documentation of your aesthetic patients' opioid prescription history through a state or regional Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in the US:  
<http://www.namsdl.org>.
3. Obtain a pre-operative consult from the patients pain specialist for:
  - a. Assistance in the management of the chronic patient's pain in the peri-operative period.
  - b. Determine what one medication they would recommend during the peri-operative to assist in this patient's pain control.
  - c. Management of breakthrough pain treatment/ management if necessary.
4. Post-operative patients should be evaluated by a practitioner before additional narcotic prescriptions are provided.

## Red Flags for Chronic Pain Patients

- Are not being managed by a pain specialist.
- Claim they have lost their narcotic prescriptions.
- Request narcotic prescriptions for minor office procedures.
- Request that the narcotic prescriptions be written for other members of their family.
- Calls from family members requesting narcotic prescriptions for patients.

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### Disclaimer:

The preceding methods are not required. They are recommendations from the ISAPS Patient Safety Committee and do not establish a standard of care.