

## **Title:** Treatment for Acute and Chronic Pain

**Purpose:** The first responsibility of Guadalupe Clinic to patients is to provide safe care. This policy addresses the various options for management of pain. Its purpose is to also protect providers and patients from dealing with very addictive narcotics including opioids and other addictive drugs such as Benzodiazepines.

### **Policy:**

Pain management treatment options provided to patients by staff and volunteer providers will be in accordance with professional medical judgement.

**Recognizing the very addictive risks of narcotic therapy including Opioids and Benzodiazepines it is the policy of Guadalupe Clinic to NOT offer prescriptions for these therapies.**

### **Procedures:**

Acute Pain Management: Evaluation and treatment may include one or more of many options, including oral medications, intramuscular injections, relaxation techniques, use of heat/cold, repositioning or immobilization.

Chronic Pain management: Options for treating chronic pain may include:

- Physical Therapy evaluation and treatment through our volunteer physical therapists.
- Cognitive behavioral therapy with referrals to our behavioral health counselor.

Referrals may also be made to specialist physicians through Project Access for documented residents of Sedgewick County.

References: CDC.gov: Guideline Resources

Effective date: November 30, 2020

Reviewed/Revised: December 16, 2020

Approval: Pamela Kramer, RN, MN, APRN – CNS, Director of Nursing

*As missionary disciples of Christ, and with other people of good will, Guadalupe Clinic works to provide access to quality health care for people in need.*