



William H. Megdal, M.D.
Benjamin E. McCurdy, M.D.
855 King Avenue
Athens GA 30606
(706) 425-2400 Phone
(706) 425-2410 Fax

POLICIES

THE NEW PATIENT

REFERRAL

Our physicians work closely with the patient's other physicians. Therefore, patients are accepted on a referral basis only. Referring physicians are provided with information defining our specialty and treatment we provide to the patient. If the referral is questionable as to whether our specialty provides the treatment that would meet the patient's needs, the referring physician may submit medical records and reports (recent MRI) for determination as to whether the referral is appropriate. Our physician reviews the medical records and determines if the patient would be a candidate for the interventional pain management procedures we offer. Patients who are not candidates for injections will probably be best treated in another setting. We try to screen the patients prior to the initial consult to determine which patients will best be served by our specialty and ensure timeliness of placing the patient appropriately for treatment.

When a referral is made and the patient is scheduled for an initial consult, the following information should be forwarded to our office as soon as possible: (1) medical records (2) recent MRI report, (3) demographic information, (4) patient insurance information, and (3) insurance authorization of the referral. If all this information is not received two business days prior to the scheduled appointment, the patient will be rescheduled to allow time for the information to reach our office.

PATIENT INFORMATION FORMS

All patient forms including *New Patient Information forms* are available on our web site (to download and print) or may be picked up at our office. If there is ample time to receive the form(s) by mail, the patient may request the forms be mailed. All appropriate forms should be completed prior to the appointment, otherwise, the patient should arrive at the office 30 minutes prior to the appointed time to allow time to complete the forms. We require a photo id, copies of all insurance cards and a detailed list of all medications (or bring the medications with you).

INITIAL CONSULT

The initial visit will be a consult visit only. Drug testing will be performed on all new patients. The physician will review your medical records and your medical history, perform a physical exam and make an assessment and plan for your treatment. The plan options will be discussed with you in detail by the physician and he will probably schedule you for a procedure. **No procedure(s) will be performed during this visit.** Our physicians need the opportunity to exam you and review your medical history to determine what procedure(s) would best treat your problem(s). Additionally, procedures are not performed on the initial visit due to insurance requirements for prior authorization of procedures.