

Acute Pain Patient Information

It is important to remember the following when taking your pain medication:

- ❖ Take your medication exactly as prescribed.
- ❖ Read all instructions that come with your medication.
- ❖ Using this drug may cause addiction. While addiction is common in people with a personal or family history of addiction, it can occur in anyone.
- ❖ Taking more than the prescribed amount of medication or using with alcohol or other drugs can cause you to stop breathing resulting in coma, brain damage or death.
- ❖ Opioids can slow reaction time, cause drowsiness or cloud judgement. It may be unsafe for you to drive or operate machinery while taking your medication.
- ❖ Opioids are at risk of being diverted by anyone with access to your home. Opioids should be stored in a safe and secure place, such as a locked cabinet or safe.
- ❖ Unused opioids should be disposed of according to the label or patient information. If there are no specific instructions, medications may be returned to a take-back location or mixed with a small amount of water and an undesirable waste substance such as coffee grounds or cat litter.