MEDICAL ASSOCIATES OF NORTH GEORGIA

Pain Clinic Director: Steven M. Lobel, MD Board Certified: PM&R and Pain Medicine **Program Director:** Medical Associates Pain Medicine Fellowship

Specializing in Interventional Spine and Sports Medicine

Welcome to the Spine Center at Medical Associates of North Georgia:

The Spine Center at Medical Associates of North Georgia is a nationally recognized pain management practice that has achieved acclaim for its conservative and progressive approach to pain management. Our philosophy revolves around the goal of improving the quality of life as well as the patient's level of function by any means possible. We rely on the patient's desire and ability to participate in their treatment to help them overcome their painful condition.

Determining the correct approach to treatment is the highlight of the practice. We can find a way to balance your pain treatment with your life's day-to-day activities. Our patients are afforded the ability to get better faster by combining many techniques at once. Using physical therapy, diagnostic testing, psychological counseling, medications, modalities, and spinal procedures allows us to uncover what is causing the pain and reduce that pain simultaneously in the most efficient manner. We understand that you, and your personal experiences with your pain, represent some of the most important data available to us for accurate diagnosis and effective treatment.

When pain is managed properly, it no longer becomes the focus that was limiting the quality of life. We take a very methodical approach to treatment and diagnosis that includes analysis of biomechanics, joint motion, muscle, skeletal, and nerve tissues. The latest diagnostic tools and technologies are used by the professionals at the Spine Center at Medical Associates of North Georgia to make accurate assessments. We are actively participating in medical research to improve the quality of care for pain patients across the nation.

We appreciate you choosing the Spine Center at Medical Associates of North Georgia to help you improve the quality of your life.

Sincerely,

Aterbel, MD

Steven M. Lobel, MD

320 Hospital Road Canton Georgia 30114 T: 770 479 5535 F: 770 479 8821 www.lobelsteve.com

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Please note the following clinic rules:

- No opiate prescriptions will be issued to new patients. Our staff will make every effort to obtain records from prior physicians, other health providers, and imaging centers as soon as possible. Urine drug screening may be performed at the initial visit and can take 1 week to return for review. If Dr. Lobel determines that opiate pain medication may be helpful, he will prescribe it only after all information is reviewed and the risks and benefits of these medications are weighed.
- 2) No pain medication will be called to the pharmacy
- 3) No pain medication refills will be issued for lost or stolen medications
- 4) No pain medication will be refilled early unless dose changes were authorized by Dr. Lobel
- 5) Dr. Lobel may contact your other providers to ensure safety and appropriateness of medication use.
- 6) Phone calls requesting pain medication during the initial assessment and while Dr. Lobel is gathering clinical information are inappropriate. If Dr. Lobel feels that your pain warrants immediate treatment with opiate medication, he will do so at the time of the appointment. Any issues arising during the assessment period should be handled by your PCP or the Emergency Department.

Our main fax number is 770 479 8821. Should you need to change or reschedule your appointment, please call us at your earliest convenience at 770 479 5535.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

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