

MSU Spine and Orthopedic Center
MSU HealthTeam
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Suite 500
East Lansing, MI 48823

As a medical office that provides services to patients with chronic pain issues we come into contact every day with patient's who require the use of pain medications. Many of our patients require spinal surgery and have great outcomes. Many are referred here for chronic long term problems. We do run MAPS on patients who are either on narcotics or are new patients and are asking for narcotics. Patient who come in and ask for early refills or stronger medications also get a MAPS run.

Patients who see our PM&R physician for long term narcotic use need to sign a pain contract. They need to come in every three months in order to have any refills and may need to do a urine drop for other substances. We also run MAPS every three months on these patients as well. Any narcotics obtained from other providers is a violation to their contract.

We recently had person who was not a patient of ours, writing fake narcotic prescriptions all over the lower half of the state. When MAPS were run and other physicians contacted all but one were fake prescriptions as well.

I contacted the MSU police and was told to contact Meridian TWP. Police. They came out and stated I need to contact Lansing police and report it to them as it happened in Lansing at Sparrow. Lansing police said I could not report it as I was in East Lansing and that I had to have Sparrow hospital initiate the report as the RX was filled there. I called Sparrow pharmacy and they said they would let a supervisor know, (but didn't seem very concerned). I then contacted the State Police who took the information and stated they would have someone call me back. I also called the attorney general's office and they stated they did not handle those problems, and to call the DEA in Detroit. They said to contact the state police, who I was still waiting for a call back from.

I called the MSU police back and stated that somewhere someone needed to come out and take my complaint and that this process should not be this difficult. They came and took a report for identity theft. Finally 3 days went by and a state trooper investigator came out. He was a great officer who was very concerned and took all the information I had gathered for him. I had actually done a lot of calling of physicians on the MAPS and let him know I had asked Sparrow pharmacy to save actual video of the person picking the RX's up from the hospital. He actually followed up with me to let me know what progress he had made.

I am telling you this because we need to have a statewide reporting system that is clear and fairly accessible to medical offices and other medical institutions to be able to report. We have had several situations here at the MSU HealthTeam and we need to be able to report them. We need to be able to prevent these criminals from accessing these medications and then distributing them. We need to better protect our physicians. If the process to report stays this difficult, many crimes will go unreported. Physician staff will just give up and let it go.

We need to fix this problem, and in doing so, the Medical community will be able to help crack down on this out of control problem. We need to be able to work together as a team to stop these criminals from accessing the dangerous medications.

Sincerely,

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Clinic Supervisor
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