

# Discharge Algorithm for Pain Related Complaints

**Step 1:**  
Determine if the patient is safe for discharge.

Before discharge, did you...

- document all pain medications administered & patient's response?

- assess vital signs & oral intake?

- determine if patient is at their cognitive and physical baseline (e.g., mentation & ambulation)?

- determine how the patient will safely get home?

- assess & counsel patient/caregiver about falls, driving, work safety & medication interactions?

No? Repeat steps  
Yes? Move to step 2

**Step 2A:**  
For patients on home opioids or discharged with opioid prescriptions.

Treatment planning...

- utilize PDMP (E-FORCSE®), opioid & substance abuse risk tools (SOAPP®, Opioid Risk Tool, CAGE-AID<sup>+</sup>)

- consider OTC & nonpharmacologic options

- discuss with patient if they can implement pain management plan (insurance coverage, transportation, appointments, etc.)

- consider a bowel regimen for opioid induced constipation (\*give & review information sheet)

- \*give & review opioid safety sheet, potential risks & adverse effects

\*SOAPP-r: <http://nhms.org/sites/default/files/Pdfs/SOAPP-14.pdf>  
ORT: [http://www.partnersagainstpain.com/printouts/Opioid\\_Risk\\_Tool.pdf](http://www.partnersagainstpain.com/printouts/Opioid_Risk_Tool.pdf)  
CAGE, and other Alcohol Screening Tools: <http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/arh28-2/78-79.htm>

**Step 2B:**  
Complete the *Patient Risk Factors Assessment* to determine factors that may impact the effectiveness of the patient's pain plan.

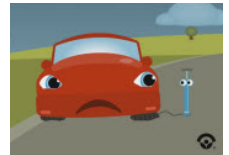
For Example:

- Depression & Mental Illness
- \*Smoking
- \*Alcohol
- \*Diet
- \*Exercise
- \*Stress/relaxation
- \*Sleep
- \*Ergonomics/how work environment may impact pain

\*Refers to a handout provided in the pain management packets available to give to patients in the ED.

**CHRONIC and ACUTE on CHRONIC PAIN**

**Step 3:**  
Review *4 Flat Tires* analogy



For more information on PAMI visit:  
<http://pami.emergency.med.jax.ufl.edu/>  
Email: [emresearch@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:emresearch@jax.ufl.edu)  
or scan the QR Code



**PAMI**<sup>ED</sup>  
Discharge Planning Toolkit for Pain

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