Pain Medication

| | <u>Analgesic</u> e.g. Tylenol® | Opioids e.g. Percocet® |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| How does the medicine work? | Reduces pain | Reduces pain |
| How to take the medicine? | May be taken regularly or as needed. Do not take more than 4 grams a day. | Available in different forms (oral, injection, topical). Dose will vary depending on whether you used opioids before. |
| When will it start working? | Patients usually feel better within hours. The full beneficial effects may be felt within days to weeks after starting the medication. | Patients usually feel better within hours. The full beneficial effects may be felt within days to weeks after starting the medication. |
| What are the side effects? | Taking too much may cause liver toxicity. | Trouble breathing, drowsiness, dizziness, constipation. These medications can be linked with dependency. |