

PATIENT INFORMATION HANDOUT

PRE-SURGICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SCREENING:

- Pre-Surgical Psychological Screening (PPS) is a routine procedure that like other medical tests assists in the development of the most effective treatment plan. It is a critical procedure as important as any medical test to making surgical decisions.
- Your physician recognizes that you have a legitimate injury and that the pain you experience is “real”.
- The PPS is a psychological evaluation that identifies both psychological and medical variables that will determine if you are ready for surgery.
- Although your pain is real and there is a medical basis for the pain you experience, certain psychological variables influence the intensity, frequency and duration of your pain. The PPS identifies these variables if they are present.
- Identification and treatment of psychological factors increases the probability of a satisfactory surgical outcome.
- The results of the PPS will be discussed in detail with you and your surgeon.

You are being referred to Mark E. Oakley, Ph.D. for a Pre-Surgical Psychological Screening. Dr. Oakley is a recognized expert in Cognitive-Behavior Therapy with extensive research and clinical experience with Chronic Pain. Dr. Oakley is a Full Clinical Professor at UCLA, Department of Psychology, where he trains advanced Clinical Psychology Graduate Students. He is also the founder of The Center For Cognitive Therapy in Beverly Hills, CA., where he continues to maintain his private practice helping individuals with a wide range of difficulties, including the management of chronic pain.

Feel free to contact Dr. Oakley at any time if you would like any further information or to schedule a PPS. Dr. Oakley would also be happy to meet with your staff for a free in-service training about the value of Pre-surgical Psychological Screening with your surgical candidates.