Dear Patients,

As of October 6, 2014, the Drug Enforcement Administration is changing hydrocodone, the active ingredient in Norco, Lortab, and Vicodin, to a more restricted Schedule II controlled substance. Because of this, the following changes will occur:

- Hydrocodone prescriptions in Texas must be written on special triplicate prescription paper.
- No refills can be written for hydrocodone prescriptions.
- Hydrocodone prescriptions cannot be called in or faxed to a pharmacy.

This means that if your provider determines that hydrocodone is required for your pain control, you can still receive a prescription on triplicate prescription paper either at your appointment or at the time of surgery. However, if you require hydrocodone in between appointments, you will have to come into one of our offices to pick up a new prescription and bring it to your pharmacy. Additionally, physicians will no longer be able to provide you with hydrocodone after hours or on weekends because of the restrictions on this medication.

Please understand that this change is a part of a nationwide initiative to decrease prescription drug abuse and is not a policy specific to Orthopedic Associates of Dallas. If you have any questions, please feel free to discuss them with your provider or our office staff during your visit today.

Sincerely,

The Physicians of Orthopedic Associates of Dallas