

Press Release

APRIL 26, 2010 MEDFORD, OR--Tomorrow, April 27, the Discovery Channel will be filming on location at Pain Specialists of Southern Oregon. Pain Specialists is the oldest and largest pain clinic in the Rogue Valley. As part of their Continuing Medical Education series geared towards physicians, Discovery Channel has chosen to highlight Pain Specialists' unique role in the battle against prescription drug abuse.

Addiction to pain medication has reached epidemic proportions and is a fast growing concern in the medical community. 48 million people, or 20 percent of Americans over age 12, have taken prescription medications for nonmedical reasons. According to federal statistics, the number of Americans treated for abuse of painkillers surged 321 percent from 1995 to 2005.

Discovery CME will follow a Southern Oregon resident on his journey through chronic pain, an opioid dependency aided by his former physician, and ongoing recovery under the care of Pain Specialists of Southern Oregon.

The patient had a history of lower back surgeries and persistent lower back and leg pain. In July 2005, he sought treatment for his chronic pain and soon found his trust betrayed by his own doctor. This physician employed numerous unethical practices, inundating his patient with excessive amounts of narcotics and creating a physiological dependency. In 2008, the physician's own addiction was discovered and he was compelled to seek substance abuse treatment. With his doctor in recovery, the patient searched for another option. Pain Specialists' Dr. Joseph Savino assumed his care in 2009, with a belief in, "... comprehensive pain management using multiple treatment modalities that decrease a patient's reliance on pain medications ... and foster an overall better quality of life." Under Dr. Savino's treatment, the patient has been able to reduce both his pain and reliance on pain medications. Tune into the Discovery Channel [insert date and time] for the full story.