



POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS: MINOR SURGERY

PAIN MEDICATION

- Your pain medication contains a narcotic plus Tylenol.
- Take the pain medication as prescribed by Dr. Kryger. Remember **NOT** to take additional Tylenol on top of the prescribed pain pills.
- **Don't** wait for the pain to be severe before taking the pills. Take them as soon as you begin to have discomfort. For the first few days after surgery, take pain medications before you go to sleep.
- Take Ibuprofen as instructed by Dr. Kryger. Begin taking Ibuprofen immediately.
- Pain pills often cause nausea if taken on an empty stomach. Make sure to take them after eating some bland, non-fatty food.
- The pain pills also cause constipation. If this is a problem use an over-the-counter stool softener such as Colace.

* It is very common to have nausea from the anesthesia that can last 24-48 hours after surgery.

* You may drive once you are no longer taking narcotic pain medication.

DRESSINGS

- **Do not** remove the steri-strips, paper tape, or clear dressing that is directly on the incisions. Gently dry them after you shower.
- Any other gauze dressings can usually be removed the day after surgery prior to showering.
- Any incisions that are **not** covered by steri-strips or tape should be kept moist by applying a layer of Aquaphor ointment several times a day.

SHOWERING

- Shower the day after surgery.
- **Do not** take a bath until instructed otherwise.
- **Do not** submerge the surgical site underwater for 2 weeks.

ACTIVITY

- Stay as active as possible. Walking, climbing stairs, and moving around helps the circulation and significantly reduces the risk of developing a blood clot.
- **Avoid** lifting, pushing, or pulling objects over 5 lbs until instructed otherwise.
- **Do not** exercise until instructed otherwise.

EATING

- If you are nauseated stay hydrated by drinking water or clear liquids.
- Start with liquids and progress slowly to solid foods. Begin with bland low-fat foods such as crackers or toast.

COMPLICATIONS

Please call the office at (805)777-3877 if you have any problem. If you call after 5:30pm or on weekends, the office phone will ring directly to Dr. Kryger's cell phone.

Call immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Chest pain, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath.
- Significant bruising or swelling that is much greater on one side than the other.
- Redness and warmth around the incision.
- Drainage or fluid coming out of the incision.
- A fever over 101.0 degrees.

EMERGENCIES

*** If an emergency arises, please call 911!**

X _____
Patient Signature