5 FirstVillage Drive P. O. Box 2000 Pinehurst, NC 28374-2000 910-295-6831

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S PINEHURST SURGICAL

x c e l l e n c e in practic e Surgery Center of Pinehurst Ankle ORIF Home Care Instructions

Bandages:

Keep dressing clean and dry to prevent infection. Do not remove dressing or splint. The dressing/sutures will be removed at your scheduled post-op visit. Do not swim, bathe, or soak dressing. If you do get the bandage/splint wet please contact the office so we can assess if it needs to be changed before your post-op appointment.

Rest/Elevation:

You should be non-weightbearing using crutches, walker or scooter until your post-op appointment. Elevation above heart level as much as possible will help decrease swelling and help with your pain.

Ice:

Ice will help relieve the swelling and pain. Use the ice bag on your ankle 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off, during waking hours.

Medication:

A prescription for a pain killer will be provided and is usually needed for the first few days after surgery. It may cause nausea and constipation. Please take the medication with food and drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated. If you experience severe nausea with the medication, please contact my office. Do not drive as long as you are taking pain medication.

Follow-up Appointment:

Please keep your scheduled post-op appointment or call us of it is inconvenient so that we can reschedule you.

Things to watch out for and call the office about are:

Bleeding: if the bandage becomes soaked or the bloody area is larger than the size of a hand.Fever: above 101Pain: unrelieved by the pain medicineDifficulty breathing

If you have any problems or questions after your surgery call

- Dr. Wohlrab's Triage Line at 910-621-3791.
- After office hours at 910-715-1000 and ask for the Pinehurst Surgical Orthopedic Doctor on call.
- Our Afterhours Clinic is also available to walk in Monday-Friday 5PM-7PM, Saturday 9AM-11AM and Sunday 1PM-3PM.