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PINEHURST SURGICAL

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Surgery Center of Pinehurst

Total Shoulder Replacement Home Care Instructions

Bandages:

Leave clear dressing on until your post-operative appointment. You may begin showering immediately, clear dressing is waterproof.

Activity:

Immobilizer: You must keep the immobilizer on for 6 weeks. You may take it off 72 hours after surgery to shower, but it must be worn at all other times, even while sleeping.

Exercises: Pendulum exercises and range of motion of the elbow is allowed, starting immediately after surgery.

Ice:

Ice will help relieve the swelling and pain. Use the ice bag on your shoulder for 48 hours, 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off.

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 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, call the office. Fever: above 101 Pain: unrelieved by the pain medicine **Difficulty 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.

