



## HARDWARE REMOVAL- CLAVICLE

### ACTIVITY

- Limit use of your arm for the first 2 weeks.
- You may discontinue the sling when comfortable

### DRESSINGS & INCISIONS

- The first two days after surgery you can expect a small amount of red-tinged drainage on your dressings. This is normal.
- Please keep the dressing clean and dry; if you are going to shower/bathe, you must protect the dressing. You may not soak in a pool, lake, hot tub, or the ocean until 1 week after the sutures have been removed.
- You may remove the dressing 4 days after surgery (white cotton wrap, white gauze pads, yellow gauze tape).
- You may apply Band Aids® to the incisions or leave them open to air.
- Please do not use Bacitracin® or other ointments on the incisions.

### PAIN & INFLAMMATION

- **Ice** - Apply ice bags wrapped in a dry towel several times per day for 20 minutes for the first week and then as needed for pain relief and inflammation.
- **Pain Medication**- You have been given a prescription for pain control; please take as directed.
  - If you think you will require a refill on your medication, you **MUST** do so during our regular **weekday** office hours.
  - If you need additional pain medication you may take Tylenol 500-650mg every 4-6 hours. Do not take more than 3grams or 3000mg in a 24 hour period!
  - Common side effects of the pain medication are:
    - NAUSEA: To decrease nausea, take these medications with food.
    - DROWSINESS: Do not drive a car or operate machinery.
    - ITCHING: You may take Benadryl to alleviate any itching.
    - CONSTIPATION: To decrease constipation, use the stool softener provided (Docusate 250mg) or over-the-counter remedies (Mineral Oil, Milk of Magnesia, etc). Also avoid bananas, rice, apples, toast, or yogurt...as these foods can make you constipated. Getting up and moving around also helps with constipation and "waking up" your intestinal tract.
- Anti-inflammatory medications (Aleve, Ibuprofen, Naproxen, etc.) should **not** be taken for 2 weeks after surgery.

### EMERGENCIES

- Please have someone stay with you for the first 24 hours after surgery
- Please call the clinic or the orthopaedist on-call if:
  - Drainage from the incision soaks the dressings, expands, is foul-smelling; or your incisions are red, warm, and extremely painful
  - You develop a fever (>101.5°) or chills.
  - You experience leg or calf pain, leg swelling, or difficulty breathing.

### FOLLOW-UP CARE

- Please **schedule a follow-up visit** for suture removal, and to review your surgery 10-14 days postoperatively.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL THE OFFICE (760-924-4084).**