

DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS: HAND / WRIST / ELBOW SURGERY

The following Medication(s) have been prescribed by Dr. Byington:

- ☐ **Tylenol Extra Strength (500mg):** Take 1-2 tablets every 6 hours for 10 days as needed for pain.
- ☐ **Meloxicam:** Take 1 tablet daily. This is an **anti-inflammatory** and **pain** medication (like Advil & Aleve). Stop taking if you have blood in your stool, if you feel you are experiencing a stomach ulcer. Not to be used if you have significant history for stomach ulcers. Do not take with Advil or Aleve.
- ☐ **Tramadol:** Take 1-2 tablets every 4-6 hours as needed for **pain (mild-moderate)** WITH FOOD
- ☐ **Oxycodone:** Take 1-2 tablets every 4-6 hours as needed for **pain (severe)** WITH FOOD
- ☐ **Norco (Hydrocodone):** Take 1-2 tablets every 4-6 hours as needed for **pain (moderate)** WITH FOOD. DO NOT take Tylenol with this as it already contains Tylenol.
- ☐ **Ondansetron:** Take one tablet every 6 hours as needed for nausea & vomiting.
- ☐ **Aspirin 81 mg (baby aspirin):** one pill in AM and one pill in PM for 2 weeks to reduce risk of blood clots. Do not take if you are on blood thinners or have stomach ulcer history
- ☐ **Xarelto (blood thinner):** one pill daily. **12 days after knee replacement & 35 days for hip replacement**

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DO NOT operate a vehicle, heavy machinery, appliances, drink alcoholic beverages, make critical decisions or sign legal papers while taking pain medication such as **Oxycodone, Tramadol, Norco Colace, Miralax, or Dulcolax** are over the counter stool softeners to *reduce risk of constipation*.

The above pain medications may cause constipation.

Other ways to reduce risk of constipation include: Increase your fluid and fiber intake such as 8 glasses of 8oz daily. Eat fruits, vegetables and whole grains. Avoid alcohol, caffeine, and dairy products. Drink 1/2 cup of prune juice mixed with 1/2 cup of apricot juice warmed.

DO NOT take Tylenol, Ibuprofen/Aleve products in addition to these pain medications unless specifically directed by our office.

Prescriptions for pain meds such as Oxycodone, Norco and Tramadol cannot be refilled over the phone Please plan ahead at least 48 hours ahead if you are going to run out of pain medications. These prescriptions need to be picked up at our office or mailed directly to you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office at 402-489-4700

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ACTIVITY / DRESSINGS / SHOWER

WEIGHTBEARING STATUS FOR SURGICAL LEG:

☐ WEIGHTBEAR AS TOLERATED

☐ NONWEIGHTBEARING

☐ _____

If directed, please move your fingers regularly and elevate your extremity to decrease swelling.
Please reinforce your dressing with a dry sterile dressing as needed

Cast / Splint:

DO NOT remove your cast or splint if one has been applied.

DO NOT get it wet.

DO NOT stick anything down it.

DO NOT do any weight bearing activities with your surgical extremity unless instructed.

Keep your splint / cast / dressings dry. If you shower, keep it covered. Consider using Glad
Cling Wrap / Press N Seal.

ICE: It is beneficial to use ice for at least a few days to reduce swelling.

Apply ice to the **Elbow** for a **MAXIMUM of 40 minutes at a time every 4 hours for the first 4 days.**

EMERGENCY / FOLLOW-UP

My clinic phone number at Prairie Orthopaedic & Plastic Surgery, PC is: (402) 489-4700

For urgent calls after hours, please call our Answering Service at: (402) 474-3434

Please notify my office if you develop any fever (101° or above), unexpected warmth, redness
or swelling

Please call if your digits become cold, purple, numb, or there is excessive bleeding

Please call the office within 24 business hours to schedule a follow up appointment if one has
not already been provided for you.

Please call the office before 3pm on Friday if you do not have enough pain medicine for the
weekend. Narcotic pain medication cannot be called into your pharmacy and the
prescription must be picked up at our office

SMOKING / NICOTINE/VAPING: Please know that vaping and using nicotine products
(smoking cigarettes, chewing tobacco, etc...), can lead to poor healing and potentially worsen
your outcome. Please quit.