

# Medication Instructions

**Take all of the medications prescribed for you as directed. They have been given to you for very important reasons. The only type of medicine that you do not have to take all of is the pain medicine. Take all the medications with food unless otherwise stated.**

## Pain medications (i.e. Vicodin, Percocet, Advil, Motrin, Tylenol)

Please take the narcotic medication every 6 hours the day of and the day after surgery, even if you have no pain. It is easier to keep you pain free, than to get you out of pain once it occurs. If you still have moderate to severe pain after taking the prescription then call the doctor. Do not drive or operate machinery if you are taking the prescribed pain medication. If you develop a rash, notify the doctor. If you develop difficulty in breathing seek emergency medical treatment. You may develop constipation from the narcotic medication and may need an over the counter laxative if necessary. If you are only having minimal discomfort, you may switch to over the counter pain relievers (Tylenol, Advil). Avoid aspirin as it may increase bleeding and slow healing.

## Antibiotics (penicillin, amoxicillin, clindamycin)

You may be prescribed an antibiotic to help prevent infection. To be most effective, please take the medication as prescribed. You will start taking the antibiotic prior to surgery. It is important to take all of the antibiotic to completion. Failure to take this medication as directed will increase your risk of infection.

If you develop a fever, drainage and/or increased swelling after the surgery, please notify the doctor. If an allergy occurs (hives, itching, rash), discontinue the medication and contact the office immediately. If you develop difficulty in breathing seek emergency medical treatment. If you develop severe or persistent diarrhea, please notify the doctor.

## Anti-inflammatory (Decadron - dexamethasone)

You may be prescribed an anti-inflammatory medication to help minimize swelling after surgery. Often, this medication is given to you while you are at the office. Unless you are told otherwise, you should take this medication in the morning for up to 3 days.



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