

PRAIRIE ORTHOPEADICS AND PLASTIC SURGERY
www.prairie-ortho.com
PRE-SURGERY INSTRUCTION SHEET/CHECKLIST

1. It is the patient's responsibility to verify pre-certification from your insurance company for your surgical procedure. At this time, if you will need Physical Therapy, please verify the number of visits your plan allows. Every plan is different; it is your responsibility to check. The office staff can assist you if needed.
2. **Make an appointment for your preoperative history & physical with your Primary care physician. This needs to be completed within 30 days prior to your procedure.**
3. **Do not** eat or drink anything after midnight the night before surgery, unless otherwise instructed. This includes gum, candy, water and any tobacco products. If you do smoke, quit! Or at least cut down 2 weeks before surgery. People who don't smoke heal much faster!
4. **Stop** taking these medications and herbal products 7 days before surgery, they may increase your risk of bleeding: **Advil**, Aggrenox, **Aleve**, Anaprox, Ascriptin, **Aspirin**, Bufferin, Brilinta, Cataflam, Clinoril, Daypro, Disalcid, Dolobid, Ecotrin, Effient, Feldene, Feverfew, **Fish Oil**, Fragmin, Garlic, Ginger, Ginkgo Biloba, Ginseng, **Ibuprofen**, Indocin, Lodine, **Mobic**, **Motrin**, Nalfon, **Naprosyn**, Orudis KT, Oruvail, Persantine, **Plavix**, Pletal, Relafen, Ticlodipine, Tolectin, Voltaren, Vitamin E.

STOP! taking these anticoagulants as directed by your primary care physician: Arixtra, **Coumadin**, Fragmin, Heparin, **Lovenox**, Pradaxa.
5. Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Celebrex are OK to take.
6. Beginning the day of surgery, take one 500 mg tablet of Vitamin C for 50 days after surgery.
7. Bring a driver. You must be driven home by a responsible adult. You will NOT be allowed to drive yourself home.
8. Bring your insurance, Medicare, and/or recent Medicaid cards and an updated list of your current medications, Bring something to read or do while waiting to be called to surgery. Also a copy of your advance directive if you wish.
9. If you are diabetic, please bring your glucose monitoring device, insulin and supplies if you take insulin.
10. If you have respiratory problems bring your inhalers, home O2, CPAP machine and other supplies with you to the hospital.
11. Please inform us if you have a pacemaker or defibrillator.
12. Leave your valuables, jewelry and personal belongings at home, including any piercings.
13. Do not wear makeup, perfume, hairspray, nail polish and artificial nails. If you wear contact lenses, please bring a case with you. It may be more convenient to bring glasses.
14. For more information, please visit www.lincolnsurgery.com or www.saintelizabethonline.com or www.bryanhealth.com depending on which facility your surgery is scheduled.
15. Your **financial responsibility** will be calculated and is due **before** your surgery date. Please contact the office with payment. Your surgery may need to be rescheduled if payment is not received.
16. If you have further questions, please see the back of this sheet, visit our website at www.prairie-ortho.com or call the office at **402-489-4700**.

Commonly Asked Questions

1. Do I have to pre-certify my surgery or will Prairie Shoulder, Elbow and Hand Center do that?
 - It is the patient's responsibility to get pre-certification from your insurance company for your procedure, but the office will aid you in the process if requested.
2. Are there any complications from surgery?
 - They are not common but do occur. Complications include, but are not limited to, surgical failure, infections, persistent pain, stiffness, blood vessel or nerve injury and blood clots.
3. What are some of the warning signs of an infection?
 - Signs include but are not limited to: Painful swelling, temperature above 101, redness or drainage from your incision
 - Call Prairie Shoulder, Elbow and Hand Center immediately at 402-489-4700.
4. Can I change my dressings?
 - Be sure to ask your nurse for guidelines as to how to maintain dressings. These are specific instructions that will be outlined by your physician prior to surgical dismissal.
5. Can I get my wound wet?
 - If the doctor has given the OK to remove dressings you may get the wound wet. Make sure to use clean water from the shower or sink and let it run over the incision – do not scrub. Example of water you should avoid would be dishwater, bathwater, swimming pools, hot tubs and lakes. After cleaning, keep the wound covered by a dry band aid and change daily or if it is moist.
6. What if the wrap is too tight?
 - If the wrap is too tight and held in place with an ace wrap, it is ok to re-wrap more loosely but if splinted you should always keep it in place. If that does not relieve pressure or pain, please contact the office immediately whether it is day or night.
7. Is swelling normal?
 - Yes, it is normal to experience some swelling. To control this make sure to elevate extremity, ice and keep wrapped.
8. What if I have continued pain after taking pain medications?
 - If no contraindication for non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS), you can supplement pain management with over-the-counter medications like Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) or Naproxen (Aleve). Examples of contraindications are: severe kidney disease, history of stomach ulcers, anaphylactic reaction to NSAIDS, use of blood thinners (Warfarin, Coumadin, Heparin, Lovenox) or you have been previously instructed by your physician to avoid NSAIDS.
 - If, after supplementation with NSAIDS, you have continued pain please call the office.
 - Prescription refills are issued only during office hours (8-4:30) We are not able to fill prescriptions after hours because the on call physician does not access your prescription records after hours. To initiate a refill, contact our office directly a **day or two** before you are out to provide your physician adequate time to review your chart to determine your prescription refill authorization. Most pain medication refill prescriptions need to be picked up at our office and hand carried directly to your pharmacy.