

POST OPERATIVE MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS

DO NOT wait until you have pain to start your medications!

1. Very strong pain medication: **Oxycodone**

This medication is given for the first **2 to 4** days after surgery for severe pain. It is very strong and potentially addictive. It is very effective for pain without a significant risk of addiction when used for a short time. This medication is **NOT** usually refilled because of the addictive potential. Take as directed on the label.

2. Pain medications: **Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen (Norco)**

This medication is taken after the course of the stronger medications listed above and is used for moderate pain. You will have a 5 to 7 day supply of these medications. This will generally be enough to get you through the most painful part of the postoperative period. Very occasionally these will be refilled but once again they have the potential to be addictive and refills are monitored by the pharmacy. Take as directed. Do **NOT** take Tylenol (Acetaminophen) while taking these medications.

Occasionally used medication: **Promethazine (Phenergan)**

This medication prevents vomiting and nausea. It is taken only as needed for nausea or vomiting. Some patients will not require this medication and some will be given a prescription prior to discharge from the hospital. These types of medications can be given in pill form (ORAL) or suppository (RECTAL). Take as directed on the label.

General facts:

All of these medications can cause **dizziness, drowsiness, sedation, itching and nausea**. These side effects can be very serious and you should have someone with you when taking these medications. **Stop** the medication if you have more than mild symptoms. **You can NOT drive or operate heavy machinery when taking pain medications.**

All of these medications can be constipating. Stool softeners and laxatives are helpful. You can buy these without a prescription. Colace or Senokot-S are gentle laxatives, Dulcolax tablets or suppository form is stronger.

(Regular home medications should be resumed and/or prescribed by your regular doctor.)

CALL THE OFFICE TO REPORT SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS - 367-3330

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PHARMACY IF YOU NEED A REFILL