



PATIENT NAME:

DOB:

PHARMACY:

### POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

## PROCEDURE: ARTHROSCOPIC DEBRIDEMENT, CAPSULAR RELEASE, AND POSSIBLE CLOSED MANIPULATION OF SHOULDER

NEXT APPOINTMENT:

LOCATION:

### PAIN MEDICATION

You will be given a prescription for pain medication after surgery. This should be filled and ready for use when you return home from surgery. You **SHOULD NOT** drive, operate heavy machinery, or participate in activities that require concentration while taking narcotic pain medications such as Percocet, Oxycodone, Norco, Vicodin, or Tylenol with Codeine. You **SHOULD** take an over-the-counter stool softener while taking narcotic pain medications to prevent constipation.

### DRESSING

You may remove your dressings and apply Band-Aids to the incision(s) **3 DAYS AFTER SURGERY**. For example, if your surgery was on a Thursday, **DO NOT** remove the dressing until Sunday. At that time, you may take a shower, but **DO NOT** soak the incision(s) in a tub, pool, or body of water for **4 WEEKS** after surgery. Change the Band-Aids **AFTER EACH SHOWER**.

### WEIGHTBEARING STATUS

You will be **WEIGHTBEARING AS TOLERATED** on the operative arm after surgery, unless otherwise specified. If you received a nerve block, you may wear your sling until the nerve block has worn off. Once the nerve block has worn off, **DISCONTINUE SLING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**.

### COLD THERAPY MACHINE

If provided, begin using your cold therapy machine after surgery. We recommend use at least 3 times per day, following the manufacturers instructions for setup and utilization of water and ice, for **NO LONGER THAN 45 MINUTES** per treatment. **ALWAYS** make sure to apply a barrier between the cooling pad and your skin. If you have not been provided with a cold therapy machine, apply ice to the surgical area in a waterproof bag for **NO LONGER THAN 30 MINUTES** per treatment.

### PHYSICAL THERAPY

Begin physical therapy the **SAME DAY** of surgery, starting in the afternoon for most cases. You have also been provided a home exercise program, which you **SHOULD** complete at least **2 TIMES PER DAY**. On days where you attend physical therapy, you should complete your home exercises once more that day. Initially, you may require assistance to perform the exercises, but you should soon be able to perform these exercises on your own.

### PAIN MEDICATION REFILL PROTOCOL

You **MUST** give your physician **48 HOURS** notice for any medication refill. Many medications require your surgeon to send the medication electronically and cannot be called into the pharmacy. Prescriptions **WILL NOT** be filled over the weekend. A prescription for the same medication you have been taking after surgery **IS NOT GUARANTEED**.

### WHEN TO CALL YOUR SURGEON

Complications after surgery are fortunately very rare. Please contact our office if you have any of the following symptoms:

- >> Persistent fever >101°F, chills
- >> Increasing pain at the surgical site
- >> New onset numbness or tingling
- >> Hives or new rashes
- >> Shortness of breath or chest pain

- >> Persistent nausea/vomiting
- >> Drainage from your incision lasting >5 days