

## Post-Operative Instructions Procedure: Ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction, elbow

- Pain Medication: You will be given a prescription for pain medication at your pre-operative appointment. This should be filled and ready for use when you return home from the hospital/surgery center. You should not drive, operate heavy machinery or participate in activities that require concentration while taking narcotic pain medications such as Percocet, Oxycodone, Oxycontin, Norco, Vicodin or Tylenol with Codeine. You should take an over the counter stool softener while taking narcotic pain medications to prevent constipation.
- Dressings: Keep dressing/splint on until first post-op visit. Keep clean and dry.
- Sling: Use at all times.
- Activity: No use of elbow, wrist or hand.
- Post-Operative Appointment: Please make a post-operative appointment to see your surgeon 10-14 days following surgery.
- Prescription Refill Protocol: You <u>MUST</u> give your physician <u>48 hours</u> notice for any medication refill. Many medications require a written prescription and cannot be called into a pharmacy. Prescriptions <u>will not</u> be filled over the weekend.
- When to call your surgeon:
  - Complications after surgery are fortunately very rare. Call the office if you have any of the following symptoms:
    - Persistent fever >101, chills
    - Increasing pain at the surgical site
    - New onset numbress or tingling
    - Hives or new rashes
    - Shortness of breath of chest pain
    - Persistent nausea/vomiting
    - Drainage from your incision lasting >5 days
- Other:

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