



AFTER YOUR LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOME: An important part of your Laparoscopic surgery is the recovery period at home. The following information and suggestions should assist your speedy recovery.

ACTIVITY: Activity as you feel able. You may feel tired for several weeks after you return home, plan to get some extra rest.

DIET: Your normal diet.

BATHING: You may shower or bath.

STITCHES: The stitches in your incisions should dissolve and fall out in 1 – 2 weeks. If they do not, you can see your surgeon or your family doctor to have them removed in 1 – 2 weeks.

PAIN: You will experience pain / discomfort in the abdomen and the incision sites. You may also get pain in your shoulder. For pain you should start by using an anti-inflammatory such as ibuprofen (also called Advil or Motrin). Use according to the instructions on the bottle. If that isn't sufficient for pain control then add acetaminophen (also called Tylenol) and take that according to the instructions on the bottle. You can take both an anti-inflammatory and acetaminophen at the same time. If your surgeon has given you a prescription medicine for pain then add that to the anti-inflammatory and acetaminophen, as you need to. If your pain is not adequately controlled then contact your surgeon.

BLEEDING: There may be a very small amount of bleeding from your incision sites. If you have a large amount of bleeding, apply pressure to the area and go to the Emergency Department.

POSSIBLE PROBLEMS: Contact your surgeon or go to the Emergency Department if you have:

- Redness, bleeding or discharge at the incision sites
- Fever or chills
- Pain or swelling in your legs
- Chest pain or shortness of breath

Please direct concerns and questions to your surgeon. If you do not understand these instructions please ask your nurse or your surgeon to explain. When at home, should you have any questions or complications, call the Fergus office.

POST-OPERATIVE VISIT: You should see your surgeon in 6 weeks. Contact either the Fergus office or Palmerston Hospital to book that appointment.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dr. Reilly – Fergus office (519) 787-7418 or Palmerston Hospital (519) 343-2030 ext. 0

Dr. Rollings-Scattergood – Fergus office (519) 787-7418

This education tool has been prepared by Nursing Staff of Day Surgery at Groves Memorial Community Hospital in consultation with your surgeon. It is our hope that the instructions will alleviate any concerns or apprehensions you may have during your recovery at home.