



Arthroscopic Subacromial Decompression

Post-Operative Patient Instructions

About Your Operation

Your operation was completed through an arthroscope. We examined your shoulder using a small telescope and removed torn or abnormal tissue with special instruments.

About Managing Your Pain

We have supplied prescriptions for pain medication, which may be filled at your pharmacy of choice. Please take your medicine as prescribed and as needed for pain. We also recommend that you wear an ice pack for two to three days following your surgery to help reduce swelling and to minimize pain.

About Your Bandage

We have placed a soft bandage on your shoulder to soak up any fluid. Be sure to keep it dry. The surgeon will remove the bandage at your first post-operative visit in three to four days.

About Caring for Your Incision

You may feel sore and develop bruising at the site of your incision over the next several days. However, this will generally go away on its own and requires no special care. You may cover your incision with Band-Aids after your post-op visit, unless your surgeon advises otherwise.

About Bathing

It is safe to bathe 24 hours after surgery. You may wash with regular soap and water, but be sure to keep the bandage and incision site completely dry. Your sutures are under the skin and dissolve on their own.

About Resuming Normal Activity

Let pain be your guide when using your arm for various movements and activities. If a motion causes pain, do not try to work through it. In the absence of pain, you may use your shoulder as naturally as possible. A sling is not necessary. Do not drive before your first post-op visit or while you are taking prescription pain medication.

About Warning Signs

Should you experience a fever, severe pain or redness in your shoulder, please contact our office immediately.

About your follow-Up

Call us at (513) 985-3700 to make an appointment for three to four days after your surgery. We will schedule your physical therapy appointment following your post-op visit.