



PRE- AND POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BREAST AUGMENTATION

Once your surgery is completed, you must follow all the instructions given to you in order to heal properly and have a good outcome.

Pre-Operative Guidelines:

1. Discontinue ASPIRIN or ASPIRIN-containing products, VITAMIN E and NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY AGENTS (such as MOTRIN or ADVIL) **2 WEEKS** prior to surgery. Aspirin and Vitamin E can increase bleeding. Avoid alcohol for 2 days before surgery and 7 to 10 days after surgery. You must stop smoking and/or using nicotine containing products **6 WEEKS** prior to surgery. Nicotine decrease oxygen to tissues and skin, thus delaying the healing process. You may be tested for nicotine peri-operatively.
2. You may receive prescriptions pre-operatively, please fill these prescriptions and have them ready at home prior to your surgery.
3. Shower the night before or morning of surgery and do not apply any lotions or creams to the skin prior to surgery. We do ask that one week prior to surgery you shave or trim any hair near the surgical site (this includes underarms). After you have shaved one week prior, do not shave again before your surgery. Do not wear any makeup, jewelry or contact lenses to the operating room. On the day of surgery plan to wear dark, comfortable clothing (gym attire is appropriate) and flat, comfortable shoes.
4. Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before your surgery. You may take morning medications with a sip of water.
5. Since you will not be allowed to drive after discharge from the hospital, be sure to make arrangement for someone to pick you up from the hospital when you are discharged.
6. Notify the office immediately of any signs of fever, cold or infection during the week prior to surgery.
7. If you are at the age where you require yearly screening mammograms, you will need to have an updated mammogram prior to surgery.

Medications:

Listed below are some of the medications you may receive. If you did not receive a medication listed below then please disregard.

1. **Narcotic pain medication (Tramadol or Oxycodone)** - You will be taking this medication as prescribed only **as needed** to help decrease pain postoperatively. Only take this medication if your pain is not relieved with the ibuprofen and Tylenol.
2. **Advil (Ibuprofen)** – You will be able to take 600-800mg every 8 hours in addition to narcotic pain medication, if not contraindicated (gastric ulcers, kidney failure, previous gastric bypass, etc.)

*Over the counter ibuprofen tablet is 200mg therefore 4 tablets=800mg. Do not exceed 2400 mg in 24 hours

3. **Tylenol (acetaminophen)** – You will be able to take 650mg every 6 hours in addition to ibuprofen and narcotic pain medication, if not contraindicated (liver disease, etc). Do not exceed 4000 mg in 24 hours
4. **Valium (Diazepam)** - This medication can be taken as prescribed on an **as needed basis** to help with anxiety and/or muscle spasms.
5. **Keflex (Cephalexin) / Clindamycin (Cleocin)** – If given antibiotics, begin taking your antibiotics the first postoperative night you return home. Take these medications as directed. *If you do not receive antibiotics please disregard.
6. **Phenergan (Promethazine) / Zofran (Ondansetron)** - Take this medication as prescribed on an as needed basis to help decrease signs and symptoms of nausea/vomiting. *If you do not receive this prescription please disregard.
7. **Stool Softener** - The main complication associated with narcotic pain medication is constipation. We recommend taking Colace 100mg twice daily as well as Milk of Magnesia 15cc with each dose of pain medication until a bowel movement. This is just a recommendation. If you have a home regimen, please continue with this post operatively. If you have not had a bowel movement by postoperative day #5, take a stimulant laxative (ex: senna, dulcolax, fleet enema).

Post -Operative Guidelines:

ACTIVITY

1. We encourage you to walk regularly after surgery and take deep breaths. Early and frequent ambulation will prevent blood clots in your legs and decrease healing time. Taking deep breaths prevents post op lung problems.
2. You may wake feeling pressure in your chest. This is normal. Continue to breathe deeply.
3. You will want to sleep on your back for at least the first week after surgery. Initially it may be difficult to raise yourself from a lying to sitting position. Allow someone to help you as needed. After the first week of sleeping on your back, you can begin sleeping on your side. Stomach sleeping should not occur until after 4 weeks.
4. Avoid activities that make your pulse or heart race to prevent re-bleeding. Post-surgical bleeding can occur up to 10 days after any surgery.
5. Mild to moderate aerobic exercise is permitted after one week. Heavy exercise is prohibited for 3 weeks. Unrestricted activity at 3 weeks.

6. You may do arm exercises (without weights) to prevent them from becoming stiff immediately post operatively. Try to lift your arms above your head several times per day. Remember, no lifting greater than 10-15 lbs for 1 week.
7. When you do resume exercise, you should wear a tight, supportive sports bra to minimize bouncing of the breasts.
8. Driving is permitted when you are no longer taking narcotic pain medications and feel you can safely and comfortably maneuver the car.

DRESSINGS

9. Post-operatively you will be placed in a breast band that we will provide for you. This band will be given to you at your pre-operative appointment and should be brought with you the day of surgery. The band should be worn 24 hours a day and only removed to shower. This band helps to facilitate the implants falling into the correct, natural position. The length of time you will wear the band varies from patient to patient and will be determined at your post-op appointment. Typically you will wear the band between 2 and 4 weeks. *If you were instructed NOT to wear the augmentation band, then please disregard.
10. You do not need to wear a bra postoperatively. You may begin wearing soft bras without underwire once you have been instructed to no longer wear the augmentation band. You can wear bras with underwire after 6 weeks post-op.
11. You may shower normally the day after surgery. The dressings covering your incision sites are okay to get wet, just be sure to pat dry thoroughly. Do not tub bathe or submerge in water for 3 weeks postoperatively.
12. You may remove the dressings from your breast 3 days after surgery. You will not need any additional dressings after these are removed. If you have any external sutures, they will typically be removed one week post-op.

General Information/Commonly Asked Questions:

13. Your first follow-up visit will be one week post-operatively with a nurse. At this appointment we will discuss/demonstrate how to perform breast massage. Breast massage should be performed 2-3 times daily for 5 minutes. You will continue with breast massage indefinitely. This is done in an effort to prevent scar tissue capsule formation around the implant, as well as to help facilitate implant placement after surgery.
14. You may begin scar treatment one week post operatively if all of your incisions are well healed.
15. Everyone is different in the healing process and it is quite common for the two breasts to heal differently. One may swell more, one may feel more uncomfortable, or the shapes may differ initially. If you notice one implant has fallen into place before the other, readjust your augmentation band to a diagonal position, placing it over the breast that has not fallen yet. Implants will settle into the breasts and take shape over the course of 12 weeks. You will notice a

dramatic difference in the implants after 4 weeks and this continues to improve with time. They will become softer, more mobile, and positioned just behind the nipple areola complex.

16. We advise patients to wait to purchase new bras until 8-12 weeks post-operatively. This is so that the sizing is accurate after swelling has resolved and implants have settled. Also, no wire bras are to be worn for at least 6 weeks, in order to allow incision to heal adequately.
17. Sensation changes are very common in the nipples and scar areas. You may experience numbness or tingling or may be extra sensitive, due to regeneration of the nerves. The areas should return to baseline sensation within 3-6 months but could take up to 12 months.
18. You may hear and/or feel “sloshing” in your breast after surgery. This is not the implant. It is the air that is trapped in the space around the implant and the natural fluid that accumulates after an operation. It will be absorbed by the body within a few weeks.
19. The skin of your breasts may become shiny. This is a result of the swelling that occurs after surgery. Within a few weeks, the edema and swelling will subside and the skin will look more normal.
20. Pain medication may cause nausea, if you experience this take anti-nausea medication prior to taking pain medication and avoid taking on an empty stomach.
21. Generally you can return to work within one week after surgery.
22. When you call to make your follow-up appointment, please remind our staff of your surgery date and type of procedure so that you will be given a correct appointment date and time. Your second follow-up appointment should be around 4 weeks post-operatively with Dr. Orseck.

CALL THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A high fever, (over 101°) severe nausea and vomiting, continued dizziness or incoherent behavior, such as hallucinations.
- Any pain that cannot be controlled by your pain medication.
- Bright red skin that is hot to the touch.
- Excessive bleeding or fluid seeping through the incisions.

If you have routine questions or concerns, please call the office at (864) 560.6717. In case of emergency, call 911.