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POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR VASCULAR PORT PLACEMENT

These are some comments about the operative procedure which will help you understand the postoperative phase. Please call the office if you have other questions, or are unsure about any phase of your recovery.

ACTIVITIES:

• Avoid any exertion other than walking on the day of surgery. After that, you may use your arms, but you should not exercise for about one week. You may drive as soon after surgery as you desire, as long as you are not taking pain medication.

WOUND CARE and BATHING:

- There will be some degree of swelling in the operative area. There may be discoloration in the skin during the first week. This will reduce in time
- Often an ice pack over the dressing will help with discomfort and swelling during the first day or two after the surgery.
- You will have a dressing over your incision. This is surgical glue which will adhere to the skin well enough that you may shower the day after surgery. Do not remove the glue at home.

MEDICATION

- Your operation is not painless. Take the pain medication as you need it and as instructed. If you have required much pain medication, you may become constipated as a side effect. Stool softeners can help prevent this. Use any brand you like. If you require other medication for your procedure, you will be given a prescription for this prior to leaving the hospital.
- Generally you can resume taking medications you usually require. The port device is ready for use beginning the day of surgery. You may make your appointments with your other physicians at any time.

RETURN TO OFFICE

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• Call today for your postoperative appointment in ____7__ days. Our office phone number is 404-501-9170..

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Call your physician if you have unusual symptoms such as bleeding, swelling, burning, abnormal discharge, bladder or bowel problem, extreme pain, vomiting, prolonged nausea, temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL IF YOU ARE HAVING ANY DIFFICULTY AND/OR QUESTIONS.

Office Phone: 404-501-9170

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