You may have questions about your care after your surgery. Please follow these steps as you heal.

**When can I eat my normal diet?**
Nausea and some vomiting are common in the first 12 to 24 hours after surgery. Try eating and drinking clear fluids first, such as apple juice, broth, flat soda, gelatin or Popsicles. If you do not have any problems eating or drinking these things, you can begin eating normal foods as you did before surgery.

**How do I take care of my wound?**
Your dressing can be removed about 48 hours after surgery. You may see a small amount of drainage from your incision line. If you see a lot of bleeding call your doctor right away.

**When can I bathe or shower?**
Keep your wound dry until you follow up with your doctor. You can shower or bathe if you put a waterproof bandage placed tightly over your dressing.

**When can I go back to my regular activity?**
Avoid straining, lifting anything over 20 pounds, and tough exercise.

**When can I take my medicines?**
You can begin taking your regular medicines right away unless the doctor told you not to. If you were given an antibiotic, take it until it is gone. You can use acetaminophen (Tylenol) or aspirin for minor pain. You may have been given a stronger pain pill called a narcotic. If your pain is not controlled by acetaminophen, then use this stronger pain pill as directed.

**When do I follow up with my doctor?**
You will have a follow-up visit scheduled for you before you leave the hospital, or you may call to set up this visit as directed.

**What do I do if I have questions?**
If you have any questions or other concerns about your surgery, please call your doctor’s office.

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*The information presented is intended for general information and educational purposes. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care provider. Contact your health care provider if you believe you have a health problem.*