

POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PORTS/IMPLANTABLE VENOUS ACCESS DEVICES

- Normal activity may be resumed as tolerated.
- You may shower the day of surgery. External catheter dressings should be left until you follow up visit.
- Pain should be minimal after your surgery. If pain is not controlled with your prescribed medication, notify the office. Make sure to utilize the prescribed medication as recommended. If no sensitivity to anti-inflammatory medications or ulcer history exists, Ibuprofen (400-600mg) every 6-8 hours is an excellent alternative in addition to or as a substitute to narcotics.
- Nausea is a common complaint post op. This can be associated with narcotic pain medications, general anesthesia, as well as with severe constipation. Try to minimize your narcotic pain medications as soon as able. If vomiting, fevers, or chills, please call the office immediately.
- A firm bump on your chest wall is to be expected after port placement. This is the actual port device. A firm tube will likely be present overlying your clavicle. This is the catheter. A small knot will likely be present at the base of your neck. This will disappear over the next few weeks.
- Driving may be resumed when off all narcotic pain medications and you can turn or twist your body without hesitation. Do not hesitate to move your head after surgery.
- Schedule a post-operative visit for 10-14 days after surgery if one has not been arranged before surgery. Please call the office at 303-498-2260 to schedule.