



## Post-Operative instructions for incision and drainage of an abscess

**Call and schedule your post-op visit to occur approximately 7-10 days after surgery.**

### **Wound care:**

- 1) Remove outer dressing 24 hours after surgery,
- 2) Under the outer dressing you will find that your surgical wound may be packed with gauze, you need to soak this area in warm water for 10 – 15 minutes and then remove the gauze. You will be instructed if you need to repack this area or just cover with gauze. If you have questions or have problems removing the packing please call our office.
- 3) You may take a shower 24 hours after surgery unless otherwise instructed by your physician. You may not go swimming until the infection is cleared and your surgical site is closed.
- 4) You will feel a thickening of the skin and surrounding tissue for several weeks to several months after surgery.
- 5) Antibiotics need to be taken as prescribed until they are complete.
- 6) Dressings should be changed daily and more often if they become wet or soiled.

### **Activity:**

- 1) Normal daily activities are encouraged.
- 2) No driving until you are pain free and no longer using your pain medication.

### **Pain Control:**

- 1) Over the counter Motrin / Ibuprofen is adequate for pain as directed on the bottle.

### **Smoking:**

Smoking can cause a multitude of problems for a surgical patient, including the non-healing of a surgical incision and an increased rate of post-operative infection. Please do not smoke for two weeks prior to and two weeks after surgery.

### **Call our office if:**

- 1) You have a temperature of 100.5 degrees or higher.
- 2) You have excessive bleeding.
- 3) Your pain is not controlled with your pain medication.

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Memorial Hermann Katy Location:	23920 Katy Freeway, Suite 410 · Katy, Texas 77494
Memorial Hermann Memorial City Location:	920 Frostwood, Suite 620 · Houston, Texas 77024
Memorial Hermann Cypress:	27700 Northwest Freeway, Suite 330 · Cypress, Texas 77433
St. Joseph Hospital	1315 St. Joseph Pkwy Suite 1708 · Houston, TX 77002
Pearland Kirby Medical Plaza Location:	10970 Shadow Creek Parkway, Suite 220 · Pearland, Texas 77584
Woman's Hospital:	7400 Fannin Dr., Suite 700 · Houston, Texas 77054
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