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### **Post Operative instructions Gastric Band Placement**

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

#### **Wound care:**

- 1) Remove outer dressing (if you have them) at 24-48 hours post-op after surgery.
- 2) Leave the steri-strips in place if you have them. They will fall off on their own.
- 3) You may have skin glue sealing your incision; this resembles super glue and is used to reinforce your dissoluble sutures making your incision waterproof and allowing you to take a shower. Do not soak in a tub or go swimming for 14 days.
- 4) You may use an ice bag to reduce swelling at the surgery site for the first 24 hours and then switch to heat if needed.
- 5) You are able to take a shower 24 hours after surgery. Dry off the surgical incision after showering and cover with dry gauze if needed.
- 6) You will be discharged with liquid pain medication upon discharge from the hospital.

#### **Diet:**

You should stay on a full liquid diet (small amounts several times a day) until your follow up appointment with the physician. You should sip liquids slowly (do not gulp liquids, this will most likely cause vomiting). You should take 2 chewable multi-vitamins daily. Children's chewable vitamins are fine to use.

#### **Activity:**

For 6 weeks after surgery

- 1) No heavy lifting over 20 lbs.
- 2) No strenuous exercise such as push-ups, sit-ups or abdominal straining.
- 3) Walking is encouraged.
- 4) Normal daily activities are encouraged.
- 5) Running and biking are allowed when you feel up to it.
- 6) No driving until you are pain free and no longer using your pain medication.

#### **Constipation and bloating:**

- 1) If you feel bloated increase your activity.
- 2) If you are constipated, increase your water intake and use an over-the-counter stool softener such as mineral oil or a laxative such as Milk of Magnesia as directed on the bottle. Pain medication will often cause constipation.

#### **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 develop any unusual signs or symptoms such as tenderness, bleeding, redness or drainage at the surgery site.
- 2) You have a temperature of 100.5 degrees or higher.
- 3) You have shortness of breath upon exertion.
- 4) You are unable to keep fluids down.
- 5) You are unable to urinate within 8 hours of your surgery.
- 6) If your pain is not controlled with your pain medication.

#### **Medication refills:**

Please call your pharmacy directly and request any needed refills. The pharmacy will contact our office and refills will be expedited.

Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Location:	17510 W. Grand Parkway S., Suite 490 · Sugar Land, Texas 77479
Methodist Sugar Land Location:	16651 Southwest Freeway, Suite 360 · Sugar Land, Texas 77479
Memorial Hermann Southwest Location:	7777 Southwest Freeway, Suite 810 · Houston, Texas 77074
Memorial Hermann Katy Location:	23920 Katy Freeway, Suite 560A · Katy, Texas 77494
Memorial City Location:	920 Gessner, Suite 620 · Houston, Texas 77024
St. Joseph Hospital	1315 St. Joseph Pkwy Suite 1708 · Houston, TX 77002
Pearland Kirby Medical Plaza Location:	15015 Kirby Dr., Suite 200B · Houston, Texas 77047
Central Business Office:	13811 Murphy Road · Stafford, Texas 77477