

# POSTOPERATIVE INFORMATION

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Keck Medicine  
of USC

PATIENT STICKER

## ANKLE ORIF POSTOPERATIVE INFORMATION

### GENERAL

- Your leg will be in a splint for the first 10-14 days after surgery.
- Use Ice and Elevate leg above your heart as often as possible for the first 3-4 days, then as needed for pain relief.
- Do not put weight on the leg, use crutches
- You may shower on Post-Op Day #2. Cover the leg with a plastic bag. Do not get the splint wet.

### EXERCISE

- You can wiggle your toes, bend your knee, and bend your hip as tolerated to improve circulation
- You will experience slight numbness in the ankle and toes after the surgery, this is normal. If it seems to be escalating, please call our office
- Some pain is normal after this operation. If it is intolerable, your splint may need to be loosened. Unwrap the ace bandages and rewrap more loosely. If this does not improve your pain, please call the office.

### POST-OP

- Enclosed is a prescription for you to use post-operatively:
  - PERCOCET, a strong narcotic, is to be used only on an “as needed” basis. You can take 1 or 2 tablets every 4-6 hours, but no more than 8 per 24 hours.
- If you have any adverse effects with the medications, please call our office.
- If you develop a Fever (101.5), Redness or Drainage from the surgical incision site, please call our office to arrange for an evaluation.

### FOLLOW-UP

- Please call the office to schedule a follow-up appointment for your suture removal, 10-14 days post-operatively.

### ESTIMATED TIMELINE FOR RECOVERY

- 1) **WEEKS 0-2: PLASTER SPLINT—2 WEEKS ON CRUTCHES—NON-WEIGHT BEARING, SUTURES OUT AT 2 WEEKS**
- 2) **WEEKS 2-6: WALKING BOOT, START RANGE OF MOTION AND PHYSICAL THERAPY, BUT STILL NO WEIGHT ON LEG**
- 3) **APPROX WEEKS 6-10: WALKING BOOT, OFF CRUTCHES, WEIGHT BEAR AS TOLERATED**
- 4) **APPROX WEEK 8-12: OFF CRUTCHES, REGULAR SHOE, START PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR STRENGTH AND SPORT SPECIFIC TRAINING IF HEALED ON XRAY**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL OUR OFFICE.