



CENTER FOR VASCULAR DISEASES
901 South Main Street
Fall River, MA 02724
(508) 673-4329
www.centerforvasculardiseases.com

Amputation Surgery

Activity

- You may resume normal daily activity as you feel able. Do not bear weight on your amputation site until cleared by your surgeon.
- No strenuous activity or lifting of heavy objects until you are cleared by your surgeon.
- You may not drive until cleared by your surgeon.
- You may shower 72 hours after the procedure. No tub baths or swimming until the incision is completely healed.

Care for Your Incision

- This incision is closed with sutures and/or staples and will be removed at a follow up visit.
- It is normal for the incisions to be slightly tender, pink and bruised. If you notice increased swelling, tenderness, warmth, redness or drainage of pus you should notify your surgeon's office.

Pain

- You will be given pain medication
- Pain medication can cause constipation. In addition to increasing the amount of water that you drink, over the counter medication can be used (Colace, Milk of Magnesia, Dulcolax)

Fever

- You may experience a low-grade fever 7 – 10 days after your procedure. If the fever is higher than 101.5 F, you should contact your surgeon's office.

Phantom Pain

- Some patients report "phantom pain," a sensation or discomfort that is experienced in the amputated limb. Phantom pain may occur intermittently for several weeks.

How to Prevent Muscle Tightening and Contractures

DO NOT:

- place a pillow under your hip or knee
- sit in a wheelchair with the stump flexed (hanging down)
- hang the stump over the side of the bed
- lie with your knee bent
- place a pillow between your thighs
- sit with your legs crossed

DO:

- Exercise your leg/ stump daily to prevent tightening of the muscles and to prepare you for walking with a prothesis.



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When to Call Your Physician

- Fevers greater than 101.5 F or chills
- Redness, increased swelling, tenderness or drainage of pus from incision
- Severe or unusual arm or leg pain, numbness, coldness, or weakness

For questions, please call The Center for Vascular Diseases [\(508\)673-4329](tel:(508)673-4329)