

Robert Louton, MD

BLAIR PLASTIC SURGERY

HAND SURGERY – FACT SHEET

1. Depending on type of regional anesthesia, extremity may be numb for as long as 4 to 6 hours.
2. Place arm in sling or elevate on pillows.
3. Elevate extremity above the level of the heart to prevent swelling, assess if bleeding is increasing.
4. If an antibiotic is prescribed for you, make sure to take the medicine exactly as ordered. Take all the pills you are given.
5. If a pain medication is prescribed for you, take the medicine when needed every 3 to 4 hours for discomfort.
6. Monitor fingers or hand for signs of decreasing circulation such as:
 - a. Pale or blue fingers
 - b. Numbness of fingers
7. Watch closely for signs of infection*
8. Call Dr. Louton's office as soon as possible to schedule an appointment for _____

Signs of Infection

- Wound becomes red, swollen, tender or hot to touch
- Red streaks are seen coming from the injured area
- You develop a fever
- The wound breaks open or begins draining
- There is a constant or increasing pain at the wound site.

PLEASE NOTIFY DR LOULTON FOR ANY PROBLEM DAY OR NIGHT AT (814) 949-7280