# Postoperative instructions

### Clavicle repair

Please follow your surgeon's instructions if they differ from the following statements.

#### Your return home

#### If you have a dressing:

- · Remove your primary dressing in 5 days.
- Remove the little white dressings (Steri-Strips™) in 7 days.
- Put an ice pack over the wound site for a maximum of 20 minutes per hour.
- Showering is permitted once you take off your primary dressing.
- · No baths or pools are permitted for ten days.

#### Diet:

- You may resume your normal diet when you get home.
- Increase your fluid and fiber intake to prevent constipation while taking opioids.

#### **Physical activities**

- · No driving until your next post-operative visit.
- No arm movements except for the exercises given to you by the physiotherapist.
- · No sports permitted until your post-op visit.
- Wear your sling until your post-operative appointment

## Pain control and constipation prevention

- Take your prescribed medications regularly or take Tylenol™ and Advil™.
- Drink prune juice and/or take Metamucil™
  if you feel constipated. If this is not effective,
  take one tablespoon of Milk of Magnesia daily
  or PEG 3350 (polyethylene glycol) such as
  Restoralax, Lax-a-day or Clearlax until you
  start having regular bowel movements.

## Call your doctor or, whenever possible, go to Hôpital Montfort. Otherwise, visit your nearest Emergency Department if you have:

- redness, swelling, numbness and tingling of the affected limb;
- hardening or discharge (other than blood) of the incision;
- vomiting;
- · pain and heat from your calves;
- fever and chills;
- · increase in pain;
- sudden shortness of breath.

Note: It is common for individuals who menstruate to experience an irregular menstrual cycle in the weeks following general anaesthesia

## Questions after your surgery? Please contact the Orthopedic Clinic.

1st level, C wing, room 181 Telephone: 613-746-4621 ext. 4304

Make an appointment 2 to 3 weeks after your surgery:

Telephone: 613-746-4621 ext. 273

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