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### **DISTAL RADIUS (WRIST) FRACTURE POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

### Weight-Bearing and Activity

- 1. Please do not bear any weight on the operated arm until you first follow-up visit.
- 2. Please avoid lifting anything heavier than 5 pounds with your arm.
- 3. Please use your hand and wrist to perform light daily activities.

### Surgical Dressing (Bandages) and Wound Care

- 1. The surgical dressing (bandages) consist of an Ace Wrap and gauze. Please remove the bandages on the second day after surgery.
- 2. PLEASE NOTE: It is normal for there to be some blood or drainage on the gauze bandages.
- 3. Depending on how your skin was closed, you may see staples, stitches, or small bandaids (Steristrips) below the gauze.
- 4. After you have removed the bandage, please re-cover it using either clean gauze and tape or clean gauze and ace wrap.
- 5. Please do not apply any ointments or lotions on or around the surgical incision.

#### **Brace**

- 1. You may wear your wrist brace as needed for comfort.
- 2. The brace does not have to be worn at all times

# **Showering/Bathing**

- 1. Please keep the surgical area dry until your follow-up appointment.
- 2. When showering or bathing, please cover the surgical site with plastic. You may either use a plastic bag and tape or a commercially available wound protector.

# Follow-up Appointment

Please call the office at 877-314-8990 to arrange or confirm your post-operative appointment.

# Please call the office if you are experiencing any of the following:

- Excessive drainage from your surgical incision
- Fever
- Increased redness of your skin surrounding the incision
- Pain that cannot be controlled with your pain medications

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