

## POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS – LIPOSUCTION

### Narcotic

- Tylenol #3 (Acetaminophen/Codeine)
- Percocet (Acetaminophen/Oxycodone)      **Last dose given at:** \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM     1 tablet     2 tablets
- Tramacet (Acetaminophen/Tramadol)      May take 1-2 tablets every 4-6 hours **as needed** for pain starting at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM
- Tissue Removed: Right** \_\_\_\_\_ **Left** \_\_\_\_\_ **Liposuction** \_\_\_\_\_

### General Discharge Instructions:

1. You **MUST** be accompanied home by a responsible adult who may either drive you home by car or take you back in a taxi
2. you back in a taxi
3. The medication or sedation given to you will be acting in your body for the next 24 hours, because of this you may be sleepy, dizzy, and/or lightheaded. These feelings will wear off slowly. Therefore, you should not: stay alone, drive a car, operate machinery, power tools, drink alcohol including beer, make important decisions or sign legal documents.
4. Eat a light diet following surgery. Avoid spicy, greasy, fried, or gaseous foods. If you experience any nausea, fluids that are clear and high in sugar are recommended (Gatorade, soda, Kool-Aid, nonacidic juices).
5. **Avoid smoking for 6 weeks** after surgery for better wound healing, (nicotine constricts blood vessels).

If after **3 weeks** your surgical site may be exposed to the **sun**, apply a sunscreen SPF 45 or higher and continue to do so for at least a year to prevent the scar from changing to a dark colour.

### Medications:

1. Be sure to eat something substantial prior to taking your pain medication and antibiotic, as both can be nauseating and hard on your stomach.
2. Initially, take your pain medication and antibiotic 2 hours apart. If you were to become nauseated or have a reaction, you would know which medication you may not be tolerating.
3. Take pain medication and muscle relaxer 2-4 hours apart.
4. ALL narcotic medication can cause constipation following surgery. You may buy Metamucil, Milk of Magnesia, Correctol, or Dulcolax suppositories. All are available without a prescription at the pharmacy. DO NOT allow yourself to have any problems with constipation.
5. Resume all your regular medications after surgery – Avoid aspirin products for 7 days (The restart of all aspirin and Ibuprofen products will be decided upon by your doctor).
6. Finish all antibiotic medication as prescribed.

**Please note that you are impaired while taking narcotics, DO NOT drive until 6 hours after taking your last narcotic.**

- ZOFRAN** 4mg (Ondansetron) for nausea.

Take this medication today at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM even if you are nausea-free. It is a very helpful medication to avoid nausea. If you become nauseated before this time, you may take it early. If it is not helping, you may also take Gravol 50mg every 4 hours.

- ADVIL and ALIEVE**- 4 days after your surgery. After that, it is safe to take it at the same time as your narcotic (Tylenol #3, Percocet, Tramacet, etc.).

- TYLENOL** may be used after your pain prescription is completed.

### Diet:

1. Resume your regular diet. You may eat as you feel able. Keep well hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids.
2. DO NOT drink alcohol or caffeinated drinks for one week after surgery.

### Activity:

1. Take it easy for the first two weeks to prevent bleeding but ensure that you walk around in your house at least every 2 hours during the day to prevent developing a blood clot.
2. Do not lift, push, or pull anything greater than 5 pounds or more avoid your chest or reaching high for four weeks.
3. You may drive after one week if you are not taking narcotic pain medicine.

### Wound Care :

1. You will go home with a compression garment in place, remove for showering, and put it on directly after. The garment should be worn 24 hours a day for a minimum of 2 weeks or until Dr. Brooks instructs otherwise.
2. Take your first shower after 48 hours.
3. Keep the steri strips over the incisions for two weeks.
4. Remove the dressing to shower and replace if you have blood on the old dressing.
5. You will be very bruised after surgery.
6. The areas will feel lumpy and firm. This is normal.

**Return to Work**

1. You can return to work within 1 weeks if you have a job that does not involve heavy lifting.

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

***If any of the below symptoms occur, please call our office, or go to your local emergency department:***

**Infection:** Redness increasing in size, increasing pain (worsens each day), foul discharge/puss, fever, or chills.

**Blood Clot:** Sudden shortness of breath, chest pain, pain in your calf or leg (can have swelling and/or redness).

**Bleeding:** One surgical site doubles or triples the size of the other and becomes firm and painful, or bleeding at incision that soaks your dressing in 1 hour or less.

**Contact Information:** If something urgent arises (infection, blood clot, excessive bleeding, or uncontrolled pain), you can contact our office at **403-487-0460** (M-F 9 am to 4 pm). **After office hours**, please present to your **nearest emergency department or call 811**. After-hours **emergency healthcare providers** may contact the emergency department at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital at 403-529-8053 to be connected to Dr. Brooks. **Please bring this form with you.**

***We must inform the College of Physicians and Surgeons of any patient hospitalized within ten days after having surgery in an outpatient surgery facility. If this happens to you, please let us know at 403-487-0460.***

**Follow-up Appointment: 7 Days** after your surgery, Dr. Brooks will want to see you again. Please book your appointment the day after your surgery to ensure you see him within the 7-day time frame. You can contact our office at **403-487-0460** (M-F 9 am to 4 pm).

**Caregiver Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Witness Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: CAREGIVER RESPONSIBILITIES:** *As a caregiver, you are responsible for being with the patient for 24 hours from the time they are discharged from the recovery room.*