Curled Fifth Toe
Care After Surgery

Please read the instructions outlined below and refer to this sheet in the next few weeks. These discharge instructions provide you with general information on caring for yourself after you leave the hospital. Your caregiver may also give you specific instructions. While your treatment has been planned according to the most current medical practices available, unavoidable complications occasionally occur. If you have any problems or questions after discharge, please call your caregiver.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- It will be normal to be sore for a couple weeks following surgery. See your caregiver if this seems to be getting worse rather than better.
- You can bear weight (walk on your foot) immediately, but will need to wear a bandage, a splint, and sometimes a surgical shoe for a short time following surgery.
- Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort, or fever as directed by your caregiver.
- Change dressings if necessary or as directed.
- You may resume normal diet and activities as directed or allowed.
- Make an appointment to see your caregiver for *suture* (stitches) or staple removal when instructed.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF:

- There is increased bleeding (more than a small spot) from the wound.
- You notice redness, swelling, or increasing pain in the wound.
- Pus is coming from wound.
- You develop an unexplained oral temperature (fever) above 102º F (38.9º C).
- You notice a foul smell coming from the wound or dressing.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You develop a rash.
- You have difficulty breathing
- You develop any reaction or side effects to medications taken.

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