Mediastinoscopy
Care After Surgery

Please read the instructions outlined below. Refer to these instructions for the next few weeks. These discharge instructions provide you with general information on caring for yourself after surgery. 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 several days following surgery. See your surgeon if this seems to be getting worse rather than better.
- Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort, or fever as directed by your caregiver.
- Use showers for bathing, until seen or as instructed.
- Change dressings if necessary or as directed.
- You may resume normal diet and activities as directed or allowed.
- Avoid lifting or driving until you are instructed otherwise.
- Make an appointment to see your surgeon for stitches or staple removal when instructed.
- You may use ice on your incision for twenty minutes four times per day for the first two days.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF THERE IS:

- Increased bleeding from the wound.
- Redness, swelling, or increasing pain in the wound.
- Pus coming from wound.
- An unexplained oral temperature over 102º F (38.9º C).
- 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 given.
- You develop chest pain or shortness of breath.

For the protection of your privacy, test results can not be given over the phone. Make sure you receive the results of your test. Ask as to how these results are to be obtained if you have not been informed. **It is your responsibility to obtain your test results.**

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