Dr. Zarling Hip Arthroplasty Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

These are general guidelines for the immediate postoperative period. Every patient will progress at different paces depending upon the extent of their surgery and their preoperative status.

Posterior Hip Precautions

DO NOT flex at the hip beyond 90 degrees DO NOT cross either leg past midline DO NOT twist at the hips DO NOT reach for anything below the knees SLEEP on you back

Anterior Hip Precautions

DO NOT Externally rotate the leg DO NOT Extended at the hip joint DO NOT twist at the hips

Immediate post-op (First week)

Take pain medication as prescribed

REHAB

Supine:

- Ankle pumps, glut sets
- Heel slides
- Abduction
- Ice and elevate lower extremity 3-4 x per day

Sitting:

- Sit for a half hour at a time. Use caution to avoid flexing beyond 90°
- Do not reach below knees.

Gait

- Walker or crutches WBAT
- Avoid twisting at the hips
- Take steps one at a time

Goals

- Awareness of hip precautions
- Independent ice and elevation
- Develop home exercise program
- Independent transfers
- Ambulate 100 feet with walker/crutches
- Vehicle transfers
- Daily hygiene

NOTES	

Dr. Zarling Hip Arthroplasty Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

Weeks 2 and 3

Limit narcotic pain medication.

Take only when needed

Supine:

- Ankle pumps, glut sets
- Heel slides
- Abduction
- Ice and elevate lower extremity 3-4 x per day

Sitting:

- Sit for a half hour at a time. Use caution to avoid flexing beyond 90°
- Do not reach below knees.

Gait

- Walker or crutches WBAT
- Avoid twisting at the hips
- Take steps one at a time

Goals

- Maintain hip precautions
- Abduction strengthening
- Minimize edema
- Maintain home exercise program
- Independent transfers and gait
- Walk 200 ft 3X / day w/ walker/crutches
- Stairs 1-2 X/day
- Independent Vehicle transfers
- Independent daily hygiene

NOTES		

Weeks 3-6

No Narcotic medication

Strengthening

- Supine: ankle pumps, heel slides, leg lifts
- Standing: hip extension, abduction
- Closed chain exercise for balance and proprioception

Gait

- Walker or crutches WBAT
- Advance to cane

Goals

- Maintain hip precautions
- Abduction strengthening
- Minimal edema
- Maintain home exercise program
- Walk 2-3 blocks
- Transition to cane
- Independent ADLs

NOTES

Weeks 6-8

No Narcotic medication

- Continue strengthening exercises
- Work on balance and proprioception
- Transition from cane to
- Develop life long exercise goals

Goals

- Maintain standard hip precautions
- Normal muscle tone 4/5
- Walk 5 blocks
- Begin driving
- Single leg stance for 10 seconds

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