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**Facial Plastic & ENT Surgery**  
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## **Flap/Graft Postoperative Instructions**

You have received sedative medication and/or general anesthesia which may make you drowsy for as long as 24 hours:

- DO NOT drive or operate machinery for 24 hours.
- DO NOT drink alcoholic beverages for 24 hours.
- DO NOT make major decisions, sign contracts, etc. for 24 hours.

### **Wound Care:**

If a dressing is used, keep it dry and intact. After dressing is removed (usually 5-7 days), clean sutures with peroxide and apply Bacitracin to sutures twice a day.

### **Special Instructions:**

Call Dr. Egan if you develop any of the following: persistent fever above 101° that is unresponsive to Tylenol,<sup>TM</sup> swelling, redness at the incision site, heavy bleeding, foul drainage, persistent nausea and vomiting, or other concerns.

### **Medications:**

You may be given a pain medicine to alleviate pain, if not extra-strength Tylenol should suffice. You may also be given an antibiotic, it is important to finish your prescription entirely.

### **Bathing:**

If dressings were placed over your wound, keep them dry at all times. Dr. Egan will do your first dressing change. In most cases, however, no dressing will be used. In order to improve and speed wound healing and reduce scarring, you should shower daily, allowing an indirect flow of warm water to wash over the wound. (Do not let water directly strike the wound and do not immerse or soak the wound).

### **Activity:**

On the day of surgery: REST. For 10 days following surgery: NO BENDING, LIFTING OR STRAINING; KEEP HEAD ELEVATED; SLEEP ON 2 OR 3 PILLOWS.

### **Diet:**

No dietary restrictions. Do not drink alcoholic beverages or smoke cigarettes/cigars/pipes for 2 weeks (alcohol consumption and smoking inhibit wound healing and can seriously impact flap/graft success).

Followup:

You should see Dr. Egan within 7-10 days following surgery.