

Call your doctor if:

- You have any signs and symptoms of infection
- You have new or increased amount of bleeding that soaks your bandage
- Your wound edges come apart and wound opens up
- You have increased pain or general feeling of being sick that is not improving or gets worse
- You have a headache or pain in the neck or back/spine that gets worse - call your doctor to report these symptoms right away, do not "wait and see" if it will go away

If you cannot reach your doctor, call your Pentec nurse or the Pentec After-Hours Nurse for assistance.

If your condition is getting worse very quickly, go directly to the Emergency Room and call your Pentec nurse when you are able.



Brought to you by the Quality Outcomes Council



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Preventing Surgical Wound Infections After Targeted Drug Delivery Pump Implant

Important Phone Numbers

911: CALL IF YOU CAN, TEXT IF YOU CAN'T

PUMP DOCTOR _____

SURGEON _____

PENTEC NURSE _____

PENTEC AFTER HOURS (800) 223•4376

POISON CONTROL (800) 222•1222

PHARMACY _____

Before you leave the hospital – make sure you:

- Know who to contact if you have questions or problems
- Understand all of your doctors' instructions
- Know what you need to do to take care of your wound
- Have or know where to get your medications and wound care supplies

Signs and symptoms of infection:

- Chills or fever of 101 degrees or higher
- Swelling over the wound that is red, firm or warm to the touch
- Drainage from the wound that is cloudy, or smells bad
- Pain or general feeling of being sick that is not improving or gets worse
- Headache or pain in the neck or back/spine can get worse very quickly. Call your doctor to report these symptoms right away, do not "wait and see" if it will go away.

If you have antibiotics:

Finish taking all of your antibiotics as directed until they are gone – even if you are feeling well.

Good handwashing:

Good handwashing is the best way to help prevent infections –

Use soap and water to wash your hands:

- Before eating
- After using the bathroom
- Before and after touching your bandage or wound

Scrub



Caring for your wound:

Always wash your hands before and after touching your wound or bandage. Your wound will be covered with a bandage – leave it in place per your doctor's instructions (usually 24-48 hours). You may need to change the bandage if it becomes full of blood or drainage. Follow your doctor's instructions when changing your bandage.

What to expect after surgery:

- Complete healing of your wound may take 4-6 weeks.
- Swelling around the wound usually lasts about 4 days.
- You will need to keep your wound covered with a bandage for about 24-48 hours.
- If you are sent home with an abdominal binder, wear it as instructed to help your wound heal.
- Check your wound daily for any sign of infection. Mild bruising is common. Call your doctor if you are concerned about your wound.
- Report any concerns to your doctor.

Keep your environment clean:

Wear clean clothes, use clean linens/towels, wash your hands, follow bath/shower instructions from your doctor.

Showering:

- You may be given permission to shower about 24-48 hours after the bandage has been removed.
- Wash your incision gently with soap and water and pat dry with a clean towel.
- Do not soak in a bath until your doctor allows.

Follow all instructions given to you by your doctor/hospital.