

BLOCK INFORMATION

Your surgeon and anesthesiologist have suggested a nerve block, also called a peripheral nerve block, is for pain control after your surgery. The block is done with a local anesthesia placed around the nerve, which supplies the sense of feeling and muscle ability to the area. Local anesthesia will be placed under the skin. A surgical needle and ultrasound are used to help locate the nerve and make sure the need is placed in the correct place.

A small catheter (tube) with a pain medication pump may be left in place to make the block last longer. You will receive a sedative for the block.

- Upper Extremity: It is important to protect the numb area until function has returned. If a sling is used, wear until nerve block wears off, or as directed by physician.
- Lower Extremity: Your muscles will be weak for the duration of the block. With Adductor block you may have less weakness, but still need to use caution standing for the first time. You may need to use crutches and a knee/leg immobilizer until your strength returns, which may not occur for 24 – 36 hours after procedure. Please don't expect to jump out of bed without crutches/walker and knee immobilizer the night of the procedure. Please take these precautions.

The following symptoms may represent a significant problem:

Difficulty in breathing that does not improve when sitting upright; redness, swelling, pain, and/or discharge at catheter site; drowsiness; dizziness/light headedness; blurred vision; drooping eyelid; ringing or buzzing in your ears; confusion; metal taste in your mouth; numbness and/or tingling around your mouth, fingers, or toes; hoarseness.

IT IS IMPORTANT YOU IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY CONCERNS TO YOUR PHYSICIAN OR GO TO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY ROOM.

PLEASE REFER TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE FOR WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR BLOCK OR PAIN PUMP:

- 1) For questions regarding the pain pump please call 877-620-6060 and/or 1-866-321-6363**
- 2) Monday through Friday Precision Surgery Center 7 am – 4 pm 586-816-9900**
- 3) IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH PAIN PUMP CUSTOMER SERVICE OR SURGERY CENTER, please call Anesthesia On-call 586-203-5410.**