

Dental Precautions After Total Joint Replacement

There is risk that total joint replacements can become infected after simple dental procedures. The bacteria that normally live in your mouth can get into your blood stream anytime you see a dentist, this includes routine cleanings. The bacteria can stick to the metal of your implant. An infected total joint implant must be removed and replaced again. To avoid this potential complication and a repeated surgery, we take precautions by prescribing an antibiotic that is to be taken prior to any dental procedure (including routine cleanings, seeing an oral surgeon, endodontist or anyone providing healthcare to your mouth).

Dr. Daniels requests that you do NOT have any routine dental procedures (including routine cleanings) for the first 6 months after surgery i.e. Surgery date is 2/2/2018; next non-emergent dental procedure (including routine cleanings) should not be until 8/2/2018 or after

- If you are **NOT** allergic to Penicillin, you will be prescribed 2 grams of Amoxicillin to be taken 1 hour prior to your dental procedure.
- If you **ARE** allergic to Penicillin, you will be prescribed 600mg of Clindamycin to be taken 1 hour prior to your dental procedure.

Please contact your dental provider prior to your dental appointment to inform them that you have a total joint replacement so this can be placed in your dental records.

- Most dental offices will prescribe an oral antibiotic but occasionally they want the surgeon to order the first prescription. If this is the case, please contact our office at 815-398-9491.

The American Dental Association recommends ALL patients who have a total joint replacement take an oral antibiotic before any dental procedure for the first 2 years after the procedure. **HOWEVER**, Dr. Daniels recommends premedication of oral antibiotics before all dental procedures for a lifetime.