

AUGUSTA ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

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ANTIBIOTIC COVERAGE FOR TOTAL JOINT REPLACEMENTS

Infection can occur in total joint replacements long after surgery. If a joint replacement is exposed to bacteria in the blood stream, the bacteria can collect and cause an infection. It is uncommon for an infection to occur long after surgery, but it is possible. For that reason, we recommend that you receive antibiotics if you should have any of the following procedures:

I. General/Urinary Surgery

- A. Urinary Tract surgery (cystoscopy, transurethral resection, catheterization of the bladder, etc.)
- B. Stomach or Intestinal Tract surgery
- C. Infection surgery (draining an abscess, removing infected tissue or ulcer, etc.)

RECOMMENDATION:

For inpatient procedures: Gentamicin 1.5mg/kg (not to exceed 80mg) IV or Cefazolin (or similar Cephalosporin) IV. One dose before surgery and several doses after the procedure is recommended.

For outpatient procedures: Ciprofloxacin 500mg orally 1 hour before surgery and 6 hours after.

II. Respiratory Tract Surgery (bronchoscopy, chest surgery, etc.)

RECOMMENDATION: Keflex 500mg orally (or Cephalosporin IV) 1 hour before surgery and every 6 hours after for two more doses.

III. Dental Procedures-Antibiotics are not recommended for routine fillings or cleanings. However, antibiotics are recommended for extensive treatment (extractions, root canals, gum surgery, etc.)

RECOMMENDATION: Penicillin V 2gms 1 hour before surgery and 1gm 6 hours after the first dose. If allergic to penicillin, then use Erythromycin 1gm 1 hour before surgery and 500mg 6 hours after the first dose.

Your treating physician should be notified that you have a total joint replacement. If there is ever any question as to whether you should have antibiotics or what type to have, just call our office (540-885-1281)