

# Preventative Antibiotics After Total Joint Replacement

Though rare, infections in the operated joint can occur after certain medical procedures involving the mouth, lungs, gastrointestinal, and urogenital systems.

For two years following your joint replacement, we highly recommend taking antibiotics before certain procedures. Prior to any procedure, always let your provider know that you have had a joint replacement. Here are some additional guidelines to follow.

## Dental Work

We advise that you have any necessary dental work completed before your surgery.

After your surgery, do not have any dental procedures for three months unless it is an emergency.

Before these dental procedures, you will need to take antibiotics: cleanings, extractions, dental surgery, implant placements, injections, and any other dental work that may cause bleeding.

The most commonly prescribed antibiotics are:

- Amoxicillin 2 grams orally one hour before procedure
- Clindamycin 600 milligrams orally one hour before procedure

## Gastrointestinal Procedures

**Before these GI procedures, please take antibiotics:** dilation of esophageal stricture, varix sclerotherapy, retrograde cholangiography, colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, ERCP.

The most commonly prescribed antibiotics are:

- Amoxicillin 2 grams orally one hour before procedure
- Clindamycin 600 milligrams orally one hour before procedure
- Cephalexin 2 grams orally one hour before procedure

## Urologic Procedures

**Before these urologic procedures, please take antibiotics:** endoscopic procedures, stone manipulations (lithotripsy), biopsies, in-dwelling catheters/urinary stents, recent or recurrent urinary tract infections, urinary retention, procedures involving incision into urinary tract, cystoscopy, BPH surgery.

The most commonly prescribed antibiotics are:

- One dose of a quinolone antibiotic one to two hours before procedure
- Ciprofloxacin or Levofloxacin 500 milligrams
- Intravenous ampicillin plus gentamicin

Please contact your urologist for guidance before any procedure.

## Other surgeries

Inform your surgeon that you have had a joint replacement.

## Cardiac catheterization

Inform your cardiologist that you have had a joint replacement. We recommend that you have antibiotics before the procedure.

*Please call your surgeon's office to have prescriptions for these sent to your pharmacy. Lifespan Pharmacy, which will mail the medications to your home postage-free, can be reached at 401-444-4909.*

## Total Joint Replacement



**Newport Hospital**

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