

Anticoagulants:

- Anticoagulants are blood thinners that help prevent blood clots. Depending on the medicine your doctor orders upon discharge, you may need to have blood drawn to monitor how thin your blood is.

Stitches/Staples/Incision:

- Your stitches/staples are usually removed 7 - 10 days after your surgery.

Deep Breathing and Coughing:

- Continue to do deep breathing and coughing exercises using your incentive spirometer after your discharge.

When to Call the Doctor

- Let your doctor know right away if you have any loss or change of feeling, or numbness in your legs or toes.
- Call your doctor immediately if you have any pain or tenderness in your calf.
- Call 911 immediately if you have chest pain or difficulty breathing.
- Watch for increased swelling of your leg. If this happens, elevate your leg whenever you are not up walking and call your doctor.
- Check your temperature in the morning and at night. Take your temperature more often if you feel warm. Call your doctor if your temperature is 101° or higher.
- Call your doctor if you have an increase in redness, tenderness, and/or swelling around your incision or joint.
- Call your doctor if you have any new or increase drainage from your incision line.
- Call your doctor if you have an increase in pain around your incision or joint and/or the pain is not relieved with pain medication or elevation of your leg. Your pain should decrease from day to day. If it is getting more severe, call your doctor.