



Your Total Shoulder Replacement Planning Guide

Patients, please be sure to

- Attend all appointments
- Bring this guide to all appointments
- Bring your coach to all appointments

Surgery Scheduling Department

Phone: (319) 600-8089

Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Steindler's Shoulder Replacement Surgeon



Dr. Derek Breder

Since 1950, Steindler Orthopedic Clinic has remained the region's most preferred orthopedic practice. Our experienced team of joint replacement and revision specialists work to provide excellence in total joint care and will get you back to doing the things you love.

**To schedule your joint evaluation,
call Steindler Orthopedic Clinic at (319) 338-3606.**



PREPARING FOR JOINT REPLACEMENT SURGERY

Your Surgery Scheduler will be contacting you within the next two business days to schedule your surgery. Prior to them calling you, the schedulers need to contact your insurance company to verify your eligibility status and prior authorization requirements. When they call you, they will be letting you know what days your surgeon does surgeries on and when the first available date is. **If you have not heard from the Scheduler in two business days, please give them a call at 1-319-600-8089.**

When the Surgery Scheduler calls you to set your surgery date, they will be letting you know which preoperative appointments your doctor has ordered to be done prior to the surgery and they will also be scheduling them for you. Preoperative appointments may include Preadmission/labs, educational appointment(s) with Steindler Physical Therapy, Medical Clearance from your Primary Care Physician, Cardiologist, Pulmonologist, etc. and your Surgeon.

Here's what you need to know and prepare for prior to scheduling your surgery.

- o **Are you planning to travel out of town before or after your surgery?**

Before Surgery, please let us know the dates that you are out of town so that your surgery scheduler does not schedule any preoperative appointments for you during this time frame.

After Surgery, there may be travel restrictions, please check with your doctor to see what those restrictions are as they may vary.

- o **Do you have someone that can help you after surgery?**

Please make sure that you are planning for someone to help you for at least the first 24 hours after you get home from surgery.

- o **Do you have transportation?**

You may not be able to drive initially postoperatively. Please make sure that you are planning for someone to drive you to and from the hospital/surgery center and to your PT appointments post operatively if the doctor orders physical therapy.

- o **Do you see a Cardiologist?**

If you do see a cardiologist, make sure they are aware of your plans to have surgery and they feel you are medically cleared to proceed with surgery.

- o **Are you diabetic? If so, your HgbA1C should be less than 8.0 for surgery.**

Your surgeon requires your HgbA1c to be 8 or under to proceed with a **joint replacement** surgery. If your HgbA1c is elevated, it puts you at a higher risk for infection or poor healing. Please discuss with your PCP how to lower your HgbA1c prior to scheduling surgery.

- o **Do you have dental work that needs to be done?**

If you are having a **joint replacement** done, you must be free from any infections prior to surgery. Keep in mind that you should not have any dental work done until at least 12 weeks after a joint replacement.

Please review the following information prior to your surgery at Steindler Surgery Center or the partnered hospital.

- Read all the instructions in your packet carefully and take the packet with you to each of your appointments and to your surgery.
- Complete any requested forms and send them to the designated party.
- Steindler Surgery Center will call you to perform your pre-admission screening 5-10 days before your surgery and will also pre-certify your surgery with your insurance company. If you are not receiving your surgery at Steindler Surgery Center, complete any pre-registration processes requested by the partnered hospital.

In addition to the above instructions, if you are scheduled as an OUTPATIENT, the following instructions will apply.

- Be sure you **DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING AFTER MIDNIGHT THE DATE OF SURGERY UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE.**
- Your surgical arrival time will be scheduled several days prior to surgery. If you have not gotten a confirmation call by the day before surgery, please call to confirm your arrival time. Please keep in mind that your surgery time **MAY** change due to cancellations or urgent added cases.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE PAYMENT FOR YOUR SURGERY:

Not all insurance companies will cover all areas of your care. The Steindler Orthopedic Clinic surgeons utilize physician assistants, co-surgeons, and first assistants to perform your surgery. You may be responsible for non-covered charges if your insurance company does not cover the use of certain surgical assistants.

Please feel free to call Steindler Orthopedic Clinic if you have any questions regarding the above information.

Important Phone Numbers

Steindler Orthopedic Clinic.....	(319) 338-3606
Steindler Physical Therapy	(319) 354-5114
Steindler Surgery Center	(319) 259-8400
UIHC Downtown Operator Line	(319) 358-2767

Table of Contents

Your Pre-Surgical Schedule	6
Pre-Admission Screening (PAS)	6
Physical Therapy	6
Durable Medical Equipment.....	6
Medical Clearance Clinic.....	7
Pre-Payment/Out-of-Pocket Expense	7
Getting Ready for your Surgery	8
Your COACH.....	8
Checklist for your COACH	8
Things to Think About	9
What to Bring to Surgery	10
For your Family	10
Guest Lodging.....	10
Shoulder Replacement FAQ's	11
Prior to Surgery	12
Day of Surgery.....	14
Going Home.....	16
1 - 2 Weeks After Surgery	18
6 Weeks After Surgery	19
12 Weeks After Surgery.....	20
What about the Future	21
Risks of Shoulder Replacement	22
Infection Control and Showering	23
Physical Therapy for Total Shoulder Replacement	24
Shoulder Exercises	25
Car Ride Home	29
Medication Guidelines and FMLA Policy	30
Polar Care Wave Information	32
Maps	33
Your Questions/Notes	35

Shoulder Replacement Planning Guide

Please bring this guide to all appointments as well as to surgery.

Your Pre-Surgical Schedule

We're pleased that you have chosen Steindler Orthopedic Clinic for your joint replacement surgery. To prepare you for a successful surgery and outcome, you will be scheduled for several appointments 10-14 days before your surgery (pre-op). It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that a friend or family member (your coach) attend each appointment with you. Once scheduled, your appointment times will be sent to you. Your appointments will likely include:

Pre-Admission Screening

The Steindler Surgery Center team will call you 5-10 days before your surgery . Additionally, routine blood tests and other tests, such as an EKG, may be performed prior to surgery. You will be given instructions to follow in the days leading up to surgery. If you are not having your surgery at Steindler Surgery Center, you should ask your surgery scheduling team about completing the pre-admission process.

Physical and Occupational Therapy

Location: Steindler Orthopedic Clinic

Physical and occupational therapists will guide you through exercises and assistive equipment you will need before and after surgery. You will learn about home equipment needs and be able to practice with walkers, etc. prior to your surgery. You will learn what you need to be safe after you return home from surgery. Therapy staff will see that you have the self-care equipment that is needed. (This visit may not be required if you have had a recent joint replacement.)

Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Location: Steindler Orthopedic Clinic

You may be directed to Steindler Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Staff to be sure you have all appropriate home equipment ready. DME may be sized and prepared for you before your surgery.

Medical Clearance Clinic

Location: Primary Care Physician

Your surgeon may request a pre-op medical clearance appointment with a medical specialist. This is a time to make sure all of your medical conditions are reviewed so that you are ready for elective surgery. Additional tests may be scheduled, based on your medical conditions, prior to your surgery.

We ask that you, your family and/or coach read the enclosed materials, especially the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). **Reminder: Please bring this packet of materials to all appointments.** You may find it helpful to save the FAQs for later reference during your recovery.

If you have had a joint replacement in the past, it is possible that you may not require some of the above appointments. In any event, because our protocols and treatments constantly evolve, it is best to be familiar with the enclosed material as your post-op plan, length of stay and discharge-planning continue to evolve.

Surgery Pre-Payment/Insurance Out-of-Pocket Expense Estimate

Please take note that Steindler Orthopedic Clinic and Steindler Surgery Center/partnering hospitals are separate billing entities. **Steindler Orthopedic Clinic will bill the physician fees, and Steindler Surgery Center/partnering hospitals will bill the facility fees separately to your insurance carrier.** The anesthesiologist fee will also be billed separately.

Depending on your insurance carrier and your insurance benefits, you may potentially receive an estimate from both the clinic and the surgery center/partnering hospital, and you may potentially be asked to make a surgery prepay to both the clinic and the surgery center/partnering hospital. Commercial Insurance plans and Medicare Advantage plans typically have an out-of-pocket expense for surgery. Based on your individual out of pocket estimate, we may require that a surgery prepayment to be paid prior to surgery. Every insurance plan is different, so it is our goal to provide the surgery out of pocket expense estimate that will allow our patients to be prepared for their out-of-pocket cost and be able to plan accordingly. Note: We do not send expense estimates to patients who have Traditional Medicare or Medicaid.

Getting Ready For Your Surgery

Your COACH

Your coach is a person to support you in your recovery. A coach can be a spouse, a family member, a friend, a neighbor or a companion. Ideally, this person should stay with you for the first few days after you return home. After the first few days, your coach should be available to check on you and help with transportation to physical therapy or physician appointments.

We all need encouragement at times to help us along the way. Your coach can provide this by being present and taking part in therapy and home exercises. Because more than 90 percent of our patients go directly home after surgery, it is important to plan ahead to have a helping hand(s).

Checklist for your COACH:

- _____ Complete the Pre-Admission Screening call or form, familiarize yourself with the facility, and prepare for your role on the day of the procedure
- _____ Attend physical therapy sessions before surgery to learn the exercises
- _____ Be present at discharge to learn home instructions
- _____ Check in on you during your recovery process
- _____ Run errands, prepare meals, and help with household chores
- _____ Make arrangements for transportation to therapy, which may be up to 3 times/week

Watch Out! (Things to think about)

Be cautious with your arm prior to surgery.

- Cuts, scrapes and scratches on your arm can cause your surgery to be postponed
- Notify your surgeon should anything happen to your arm prior to surgery

If you use tobacco (or nicotine of any kind), stop prior to surgery.

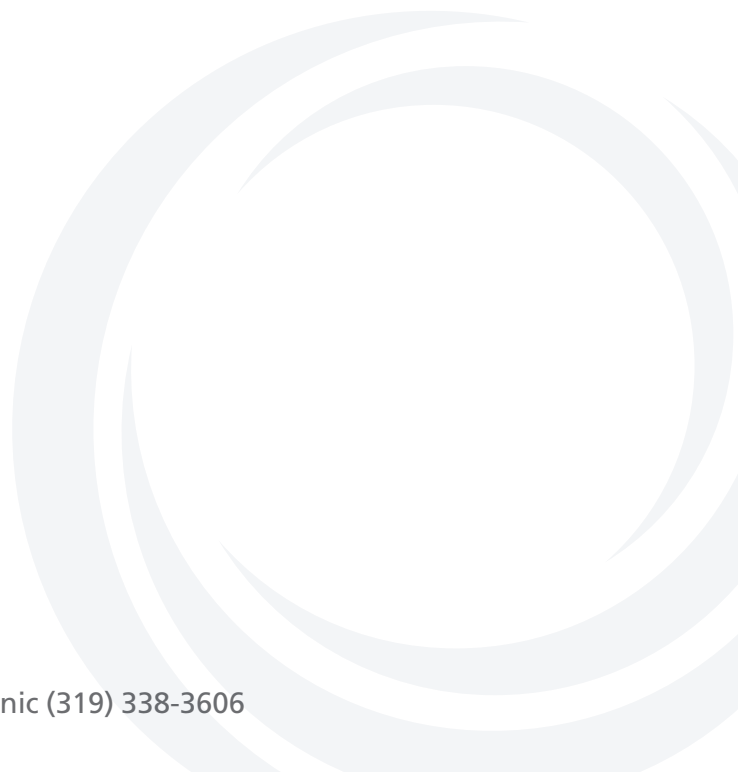
- Smoking reduces your lung function
- Nicotine reduces circulation and healing, increasing risk of poor healing and infection

If you drink alcohol, be honest with your doctors about how much you drink.

- Alcohol impairs liver function
- Going through withdrawal during recovery can be serious

Think ahead about the space you live in.

- You may want a safety bar or handrail for your bath or shower
- Stairs with a secure handrail on the side of your free hand
- A recliner for sleeping could be helpful
- Consider a temporary living space on your first floor to avoid frequent stair climbing, or getting a power lift chair
- Keep pets away from incision



What to Bring to Surgery

- _____ This Planning Guide
- _____ Your Coach
- _____ Loose-fitting clothes that can be pulled on with one hand
- _____ Toiletries (deodorant, toothbrush, comb, etc.) and personal items
- _____ Slip-on shoes
- _____ Glasses/glasses case
- _____ Hearing aid, extra batteries, case
- _____ CPAP or BiPAP machine (if staying overnight at a partnered hospital)
- _____ Copy of Living Will, Durable Power of Attorney, etc.
- _____ Your shoulder immobilizer

For your Family

Please designate one family member (perhaps your coach) to coordinate information about your procedure for other family members.

It is most convenient for you to receive personal phone calls after your surgery to avoid disruption of your care.

Consult with Steindler Surgery Center staff for wireless internet access.

Guest Lodging

If you are having surgery at a partnered hospital and may be staying over night, please consult with that facility about options for guest lodging.

TOTAL SHOULDER REPLACEMENT GUIDE

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and answers.

PRIOR TO SURGERY

Questions 1–11

DAY OF SURGERY

Questions 12–21

GOING HOME

Questions 22–33

1–2 WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY

Questions 34–39

6 WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY

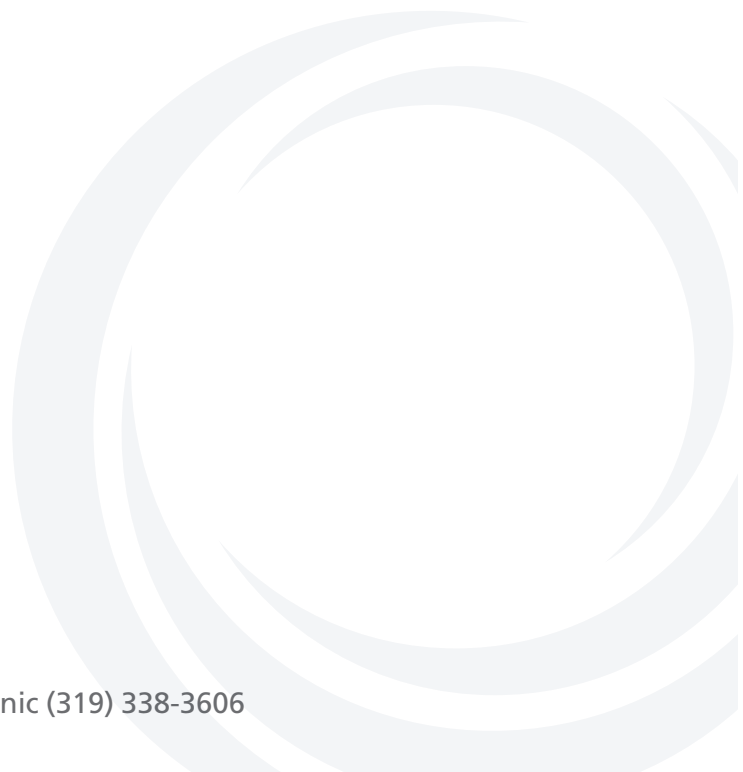
Questions 40–45

12 WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY

Questions 46–49

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

Questions 50–52



PRIOR TO SURGERY

1. Q: Do I need to do exercises prior to surgery?

A: Pre-operative exercises are not mandatory, but they may be helpful. You may learn some exercises at your pre-instruction screening appointment with physical therapy. You may want to practice these with your caregiver prior to having surgery.

2. Q: Do I need to stop taking certain medications prior to surgery?

A: Possibly. It depends on your circumstances. These questions are answered during your pre-admission screening call, which is why you should provide a complete and detailed medical history during your pre-admission screening .

3. Q: Can I have a steroid injection in my shoulder joint prior to surgery?

A: It is possible to have an injection prior to surgery if given 3 months prior to surgery, depending on physician preference.

4. Q: What if I get an infection prior to surgery?

A: You must call the office if you develop any infection, such as a cold, sinus infection or urinary **tract** infection prior to surgery. We handle this on a case-by-case basis.

5. Q: What equipment will I need?

A: You will need a shoulder immobilizer. This will be provided to you prior to surgery.

6. Q: How long will I be in the surgery center or hospital?

A: You are likely receiving an outpatient procedure and will go home the same day. You will need to have a responsible adult stay with you for 24 hours from the end of your surgery. If your surgery is being performed at a partnered hospital, you may be staying there overnight. The hospital physical therapy staff will inform you and your surgeon when you are safe and prepared to return home. In either case, expect that you will still have pain when you are discharged; however, you will be reasonably mobile.

7. Q: Will I need to have someone at home with me when I am discharged?

A: As stated in question 6, if you go home the day of your surgery, you will need to have a responsible adult stay with you for 24 hours. When you leave, you will be able to get in and out of bed, get in and out of a chair, walk to and from the bathroom, and be able to go up and down stairs. It is best to have someone stay with you the first few nights at home, though it is unlikely that you will need someone with you continuously. Physical or occupational therapy may be ordered for you to work on self-care, including using the toilet, dressing and bathing/showering. You may need some initial help at home for showering, as well as laundry and meals. If family or friends are not able to assist, some outside help can be arranged, usually at your cost.

8. Q: I live alone, will I need to rely on others?

A: Because we live in rural Iowa, this is an understandable concern. We suggest you utilize friends and family through this process. Shoulder replacement is best accomplished when you have a coach to assist you with passive shoulder exercises and others to help you with dressing and getting your immobilizer on/off. Success is best achieved by going to your home after surgery, working on your exercises several times a day, and icing your shoulder. Home physical therapy and skilled care units are used as a last resort. You are free to contact a nursing home to pay privately when you are discharged. You must contact the nursing home prior to your operation.

9. Q: Do I go to physical therapy once I return home?

A: Yes, you will start outpatient physical therapy 1-2 weeks after your surgery. Your coach will assist you with passive exercises until your first post-operative physical therapy appointment.

10. Q: Do I need to remove nail polish prior to surgery?

A: You will need to remove fingernail polish or gel coat prior to surgery so that we can monitor your vitals during surgery. Toenail polish does not need to be removed.

11. Q: I get very nauseous and vomit after surgery, what can I do?

A: Let your surgeon know beforehand, and medicine can be prescribed to take the morning of surgery.

DAY OF SURGERY:

12. Q: What will happen the day of surgery?

A: You will be informed of what time to arrive the day of surgery. Nurses will record basic information, you will get into a surgical gown and an IV will be started. The anesthesiologist will meet with you to discuss your anesthesia and answer any questions. Your surgeon will speak with you to answer questions and identify and mark your surgical arm.

13. Q: Will I be asleep for surgery?

A: You will receive general anesthesia (completely asleep) or anesthesia targeting a specific area of your body, such as spinal or regional anesthesia. You do not have to be awake for the surgery. We may also use local anesthesia to decrease pain for the first 24 hours. All of this is done to keep you comfortable and have the least amount of pain.

14. Q: How long is the surgery?

A: The surgery itself typically takes about 1.5 - 2 hours.

15. Q: Where is the incision?

A: The incision is typically on the front of your shoulder. Your surgeon will discuss with you pre-op if a different approach is planned.

16. Q: Will I have stitches?

A: Depending on surgeon preference, you may have sutures that will be removed at your two week follow-up appointment. If the incision is closed with buried stitches and sealed with steri-strips, you will be instructed to cover the incision for showers and will be provided with these covers at discharge.

17. Q: Will I have a catheter in my bladder?

A: Not usually.

18. Q: Will I get out of bed the same day of surgery?

A: Yes, if medically stable. Nursing and/or physical therapy will assist you getting in and out of bed, walking to and from the bathroom and sitting in a recliner.

19. Q: What will I use for pain control?

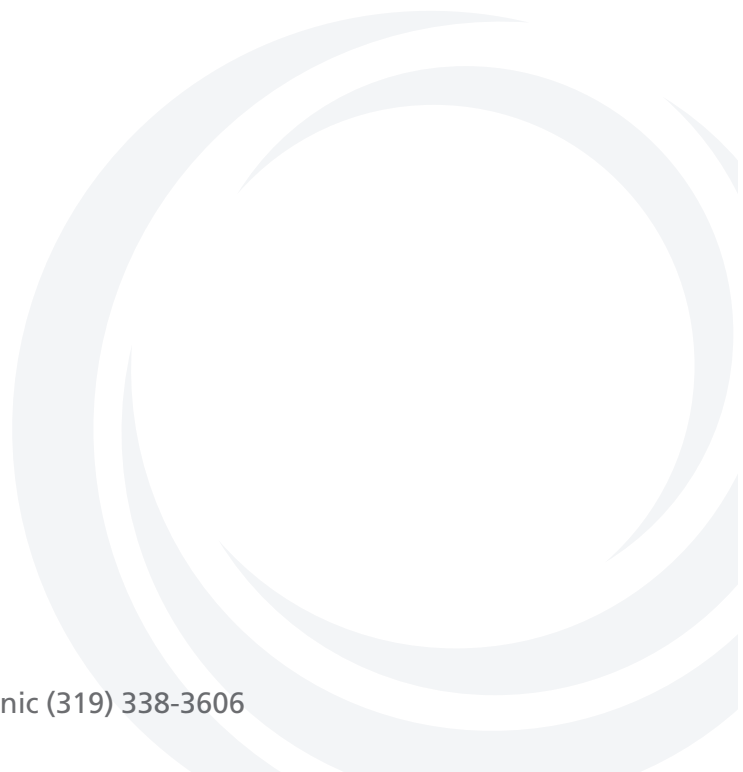
A: Oral pain pills, similar to the ones you will take at home. Nursing will routinely assess your pain, and there is a range of medical options to be sure your pain is controlled. You will also be instructed on alternative, non-medicinal ways to control your pain. Ice packs will also be routinely offered while in the surgery center.

20. Q: I have sleep apnea, should I bring my CPAP?

A: If you are having an outpatient procedure at Steindler Surgery Center, you will not need it. If you know you are staying overnight at a hospital after your surgery, please bring it and inform nursing when you reach your room after surgery.

21. Q: Will I have physical therapy before discharge?

A: If you have outpatient surgery at Steindler Surgery Center, you will not have physical therapy before you are discharged. If you stay overnight at a partnered hospital, you will usually have physical therapy 1-3 times/day until discharge.



GOING HOME:

22. Q: How will I get home?

A: If needed, surgery center staff will assist you getting into the car when you go home.

23. Q: What will I use for pain control when I get home?

A: Your prescription will either be sent electronically to your pharmacy. **You will need to have your insurance card and credit card for the copay.** Any refills can only be done during Steindler Orthopedic Clinic business hours. Your prescription will be for Oxycodone, unless you do not tolerate this; then a substitute will be prescribed. At home, you can take 1 or 2 tablets, separated by the **time instructions on the prescription.** Narcotics can affect your alertness, can be constipating and can be addictive. **You should try to get off of them as soon as you can** by cutting back from taking 2 tablets at a time to only 1 tablet at a time and increasing the time between doses. You are strongly encouraged to take plain Tylenol (Acetaminophen). You can safely take up to 4000mg of Tylenol (Acetaminophen) a day. You are also encouraged to take Ibuprofen or Aleve if you do not have any contradiction to take this. It is recommended you alternate Tylenol with Ibuprofen on a scheduled basis. Each of these can be taken every 6 hours, so it is recommended to take 600-1000 mg of Tylenol, then 3 hours later, take up to 800 mg of Ibuprofen. Then repeat this schedule continuously. If you do need a refill on your pain medicine, that can only be done during Steindler Orthopedic Clinic business hours. Please try to plan ahead so that you do not run out on the weekend. You should allow 2-3 business days to complete a refill so your surgeon has time to receive your request. Ice packs are also very helpful and several should be purchased and frozen pre-operatively.

24. Q: I live far away, what if my pharmacy is closed by the time I get home to pick up my pain medication?

A: You should review the hours that your pharmacy is available for picking up prescriptions prior to your surgery. You may want to have your prescriptions sent to a pharmacy in North Liberty so that you can pick them up before you leave town.

25. Q: How long will it take to recover?

A: When you get home you will be able to navigate around the house by yourself. You will be able to do stairs. Formal therapy will begin 1-2 weeks after surgery, depending on surgeon preferences. The immobilizer will be worn for up to 6 weeks. You may not be able to drive for up to 6 weeks after surgery, depending on surgeon preference. Returning to work is the most variable depending on your occupation. The earliest return to work would be a strict sitting job at 2 weeks or longer. Labor work and construction work may require 3-4 months. Again, your surgeon is your best resource for these questions. You should be close to 100% recovered at the first anniversary of your surgery.

26. Q: Can I take over the counter ibuprofen or Aleve (Naproxen) with my pain medications?

A: You may be on a blood thinner for up to 6 weeks after surgery, depending on your physician. Some NSAIDs (like Ibuprofen or Naproxen) may be prescribed on a case-by-case basis. Again, discuss this with your surgeon and you will be provided with specific written instructions at discharge.

27. Q: Should I be using ice on my shoulder?

A: Yes. This is done frequently throughout the day to alleviate pain and swelling. This should be done for 20-30 minutes per hour as needed. You can start timing once you feel the coolness on your shoulder. You will need several ice packs and you should purchase these prior to your surgery. The ice pack should not make direct contact with your skin.

28. Q: What is the most important thing for me to do once I am home?

A: The first 2-6 weeks it is important to be doing wrist/forearm exercises every 1-2 hours while awake. Do exercises with your caregiver two times a day. Wear your immobilizer and actively avoid using your shoulder.

29. Q: Narcotic pain medicine can cause constipation, what should I do?

A: Fruit and fiber intake should be increased. Frequent walking and drinking a lot of water will also help manage constipation. Your physician may also recommend a laxative, such as Miralax or Colace.

30. Q: What are the signs of infection?

A: Although a low-grade temperature (100 degrees) is common for a few days after surgery, an increasing temperature, chills, shakes, increasing pain and worsening redness are signs of possible infection. If you are concerned about infection, please call Steindler Orthopedic Clinic weekdays 8:00-4:30 at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417. Please seek emergency care if your condition is worsening during the weekend.

31. Q: How can I prevent blood clots?

A: Leg pumpers and support stockings (TED's) may be used in the surgery center.

- Early and frequent mobilization like walking and changing positions is encouraged.
- Aspirin or other blood thinners may be ordered.
- Frequently move your ankles and toes.

32. Q: What are the signs of a blood clot?

A: Rarely, a blood clot may form in the arm. This results in severe swelling and pain. Other signs can be shortness of breath and an irregular or fast pulse. These can be signs that a clot has gone to the lungs. If you experience changes in your arm, you should immediately call **Steindler Orthopedic Clinic** at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417. **Shortness of breath/changes in your pulse or heartbeat are cause for calling 911 immediately.**

33. Q: Can I shower over the incision and let it get wet?

A: Yes, if there is a clear mesh on the incision you will not need a cover. If sealed with steri-strips you will be instructed to cover the incision for 2 weeks and will be provided with these covers at discharge.

1–2 WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY:

34. Q: When can I stop the blood thinner if prescribed?

A: Not until 6 weeks after surgery. This will be discussed at follow-up appointments.

35. Q: Is it normal that I am not hungry?

A: Yes. Many people get post-surgical anorexia (lack of appetite). This will pass on its own. It is suggested that you supplement your diet with protein shakes (like Ensure) or Carnation instant breakfast drinks.

36. Q: Why can't I sleep?

A: Sleeping in a bed after shoulder replacement is often difficult. A recliner may be helpful in getting to sleep. Keep pillows behind your upper arm to prevent shoulder extension while sleeping. Call **Steindler Orthopedic Clinic** weekdays 8:00-4:30 at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417 if you are having trouble sleeping. Sometimes a sleeping medication can be prescribed for a short period.

37. Q: Is it normal that my shoulder is red/swollen/hot?

A: A light pink is very common after surgery. Redness that extends down the arm or is accompanied by increasing pain and fever is a sign of infection or a blood clot. If you experience this, please call **Steindler Orthopedic Clinic** weekdays 8:00-4:30 at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417. Warmth and swelling may continue for up to a year. It will get better, but it may take months.

38. Q: Will I be able to sleep on my operated side?

A: No, not for at least 6 weeks and then your surgeon will discuss with you at your 6 week appointment. You will need to wear your immobilizer at all times for the first 6 weeks, including at night. It may be more comfortable to sleep in a recliner.

39. Q: What can put on my incision?

A: You may shower and use soap right away on the incision if it is covered with a clear glue mesh. Vitamin E oil can be used after the mesh is removed. If Steri-strips are used, keep dry until your 2 week follow up appointment. Do not use skin creams / lotions / oils on the incision until the steri-strips fall off.

6 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY:

40. Q: Is it still supposed to be swollen?

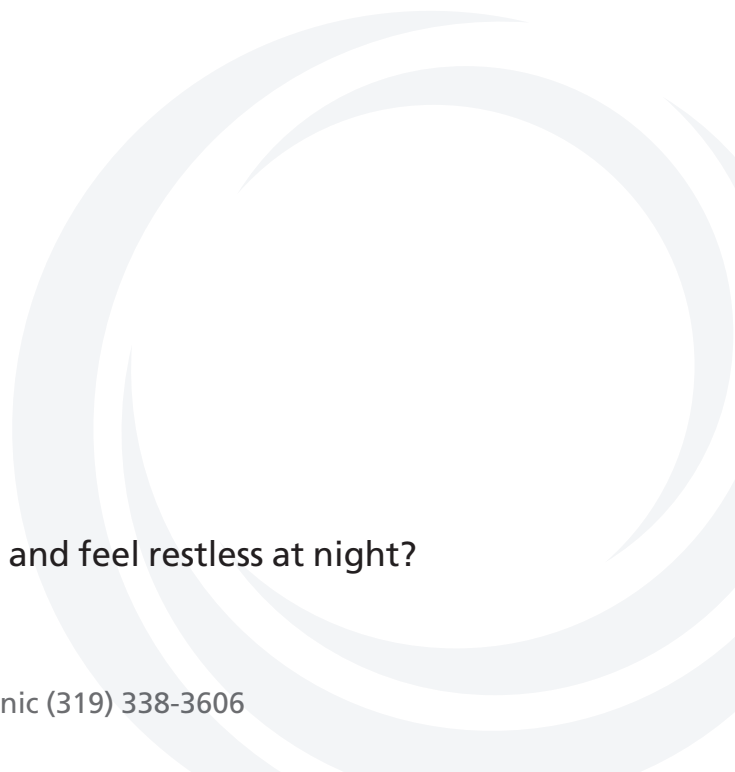
A: Yes, this is still normal.

41. Q: Is it still supposed to be stiff?

A: Yes, stiffness is still common.

42. Q: Is it still supposed to ache and hurt and feel restless at night?

A: Yes, this is common.



43. Q: Shouldn't it be completely healed by now?

A: No, complete healing takes several months.

44. Q: Should I still be taking a blood thinner?

A: Not because of your surgery. You may be taking one for an unrelated medical condition.

45. Q: Can I take Ibuprofen or Aleve (Naproxen) now?

A: Yes.

12 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY:

46. Q: Shouldn't it be healed by now?

A: No, you are 75% healed. Your shoulder may continue to have some warmth and swelling until about 1 year.

47. Q: Is it normal for my shoulder to still be stiff?

A: Yes. This is most noticeable first thing in the morning.

46. Q: Is it normal for my shoulder to be sore and ache later in the day?

A: Yes, this is normal.

47. Q: What can't I do?

A: Discuss with your surgeon any other questions you might have about your activity levels.

48. Q: What about going through the airport after my shoulder replacement?

A: Inform the TSA staff as you enter security.

49. Q: Can I go to the dentist now?

A: Yes, now that it has been 3 months since your surgery. Remember, you **must** take your antibiotics at least 1 hour **before** your dental appointment. Typically, you should take antibiotics after joint replacement for one year after surgery. Contact the office for your initial prescription for antibiotics.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

50. Q: What do I do if I think I am getting an infection such as a skin, sinus, dental, or urinary tract infection?

A: You should call your primary physician as you normally would. If you suspect an infection that is near the incision, contact Steindler Orthopedic Clinic for an appointment.

51. Q: What are the symptoms of infection in my new shoulder?

A: These may include drainage, increased swelling, redness and pain not associated with increased activity. You should call Steindler Orthopedic Clinic 8:00-4:30 at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417 at the earliest signs of infection.

52. Q: Do I need antibiotics for dental work?

A: Yes. Please wait for 3 months after surgery to do any routine dental work. Remember, you must take your antibiotic 1 hour **before** your dental appointment. It is recommended that you take these for at least the first year from surgery if you are healthy. If you have any of the following medical conditions, it is recommended that you continue these for a lifetime:

History of organ transplant (liver, kidney, lung, etc), previous joint infection, or Immunocompromised patients with:

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Cancer and being treated with chemotherapy
- Psoriatic arthritis

Contact Steindler Orthopedic Clinic at any time if you are unsure if you should continue with pre-dental antibiotics or have any other questions/concerns at (319) 338-3606 or (800) 373-6417.

Your surgeon will ask you to schedule x-rays every 1–5 years to assess for wear or loosening.

What Are the Risks of Shoulder Replacement?

- **Infection.** We prevent infection by giving you antibiotics on the day of surgery. Sometimes patients will also take antibiotics for a few days after surgery to reduce their risk of infection. Infections can occur at the site of your incision and in the deeper tissue near your new shoulder. Most infections are treated with antibiotics, but a major infection near your prosthesis might require surgery to remove and replace the prosthesis.
- **Blood clots.** Clots can form in the deep veins of your leg after surgery. This can be dangerous because a piece of a clot can break off and travel to your lung. We prescribe blood thinner to take after your surgery to help prevent any clots.
- **Dislocation.** Certain positions can cause the ball of your new joint to come out of the socket, particularly in the first few months after surgery. If the shoulder dislocates, you will need to go to the ER. The shoulder is then put back into place, sometimes under sedation. If your shoulder keeps dislocating, surgery is often required to stabilize it.
- **Medical complications.** All surgeries carry the risk of medical complications. These are rare, but include stroke, heart attack, lung problems, or other issues. In order to prevent these issues, we evaluate you medically before the surgery is performed. A physical, labs, and x-rays may all be performed prior to surgery.
- **Stiffness.** You may experience stiffness in your shoulder after surgery and may not recover your full range of motion, this is especially true if you have a reverse shoulder replacement.
- **Decreased strength.** While shoulder replacements typically provide pain relief and functional range of motion, strength deficits commonly persist. Lifting over 20-30 pounds is discouraged. Repetitive strenuous activity with the shoulder may lead to loosening or soft tissue injury that could result in loss of function and need for further surgery.

More rare complications:

- **Loosening.** Although this complication is rare with newer implants, your new joint might not become solidly fixed to your bone or might loosen over time, causing pain in your shoulder or arm. That part of the shoulder may need to be replaced through further surgery.
- **Fracture.** During surgery, healthy portions of your shoulder joint might fracture. Sometimes the fractures are small enough to heal on their own, but larger fractures might need to be stabilized with wires, screws, and possibly a metal plate or bone grafts.
- **Nerve damage.** Rarely, nerves in the area where the implant is placed can be injured. Nerve damage can cause numbness, weakness, and pain.

Need for second shoulder replacement

Your prosthetic shoulder joint might wear out eventually, especially if you have shoulder replacement surgery when you're relatively young and active. You might require either all or part of the shoulder replacement revised. However, new materials are making implants last longer.

Infection Control and Showering Before Surgery

Our goal is to keep you safe and free from infection. You can help with this goal by following these showering instructions. Doing so will help reduce the number of germs on your skin, which lowers the risk of you getting an infection after surgery. It is also important for your skin to be as clean as possible so that the antiseptic cleaning we do before surgery on your skin will work to its full potential.

Before surgery, it is highly recommended that you use a 4% chlorhexidine gluconate solution to bathe with. Read all label instructions carefully and follow the directions on the package for proper skin cleaning. In most cases, this skin cleansing solution will be provided to you at your pre-operative PT or OT appointment. If you do not have a pre-operative PT/OT appointment, visit Steindler Therapy at our North Liberty clinic, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

Showering Before Surgery Instructions:

- Shower the night before or day of your surgery using antibacterial soap and shampoo your hair with regular shampoo.
- After you clean with antibacterial soap, turn the water away from yourself and thoroughly apply the 4% chlorhexidine gluconate solution to your entire body, **but not your face and genitals**. Take extra care to clean the surgical area.
- Once the solution is applied, fully wash it off and do not wash again with other soap.
- Do not shave. Men may shave facial hair if surgery is not in the head/neck area. Any cut, abrasion, or rash near your surgical site will be evaluated and may cause a delay in your procedure.

After Showering:

- Dry yourself off with a freshly cleaned, dry towel.
- Do not apply lotions, ointments, perfumes, deodorants, hair products, or powders.
- Put on clean clothes or pajamas.
- Put clean sheets on your bed to sleep on the night before surgery.
- Do not allow pets to sleep in your bed.

If you have any questions, please contact Steindler Orthopedic Clinic at (319) 338-3606.

Total Shoulder Replacement/Reverse Total Shoulder Replacement

Please bring the following items for use during your stay:

1. Shoulder immobilizer
2. Loose-fitting shirt to go on under your immobilizer
3. Slip on shoes
4. Loose fitting clothes (sweatpants) that will be easy to pull up with 1 hand

Equipment you may need at home:

1. Commode or stool riser
2. Ice packs

Physical Therapy goal for discharge:

1. Able to get in/out of bed without putting weight through elbow of surgical arm
2. Able to get up/down from chairs independently
3. Able to walk and use stairs with assistive device as needed (cane in non-surgical hand)
4. Independent with elbow/wrist/hand exercises
5. Comfortable with passive range of motion with a family member
6. Be able to dress and put on/take off immobilizer with family member

At home after discharge:

1. Perform elbow/wrist/hand exercises 3 times a day
2. Perform shoulder passive range of motion with family member 2 times a day
3. Avoid shoulder extension during dressing
4. Wear the shoulder immobilizer at all times except for bathing and dressing for 6 weeks.

Hand Squeeze

Hold a ball or foam block from the immobilizer and make a fist with your fingers and thumb as you squeeze the object. Squeeze as firmly as you can.

Reps: **15-20**

Hold: **5 seconds**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Wrist Extension and Flexion

Move your wrist up and down at your side with your elbow bent to **90 degrees**.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Seated Supination

Turn your palm up and down with your elbow bent to **90 degrees**.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Elbow Flexion

- Stand or sit tall, with your arm hanging by your side.
- Slowly flex your elbow, bringing your hand towards your shoulder. You may use your other hand to assist if needed.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Shoulder Pendulum

- Use your non-surgical arm to hold the side of a table or chair for balance.
- Bend over at the waist and make sure your back is parallel to the floor.
- Let the arm dangle like a pendulum and gently swing it in a small circle, gradually making bigger circles, 15-20 repetitions.
- Then, allow your arm to swing back and forth 15-20 repetitions.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Shoulder External Rotation

- Sit or stand with your surgical elbow bent to **90 degrees**, holding a stick in front of you.
- Use the stick to rotate your hand outward **30 degrees**, keeping your elbow at your side.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **3-4x/day**



Assisted Shoulder Abduction

Lying on your bed, have your family member raise your arm gently out to the side, progressing up to **90 degrees**.

Reps: **15-20**

Frequency: **2x/day**



Assisted Shoulder Flexion

Lying on your bed, have your family member raise your arm gently overhead, progressing up to **130 degrees**.

Reps: **15-20**

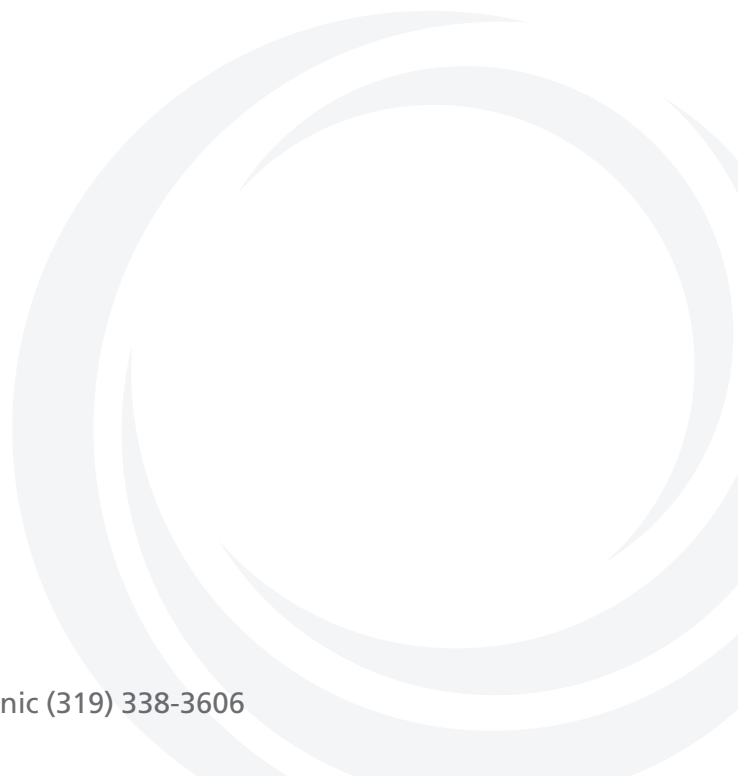
Frequency: **2x/day**



Car Ride Home

Depending on how far you have to drive to get home after leaving the surgical center, you may want to think about several things so that you can be more comfortable on the ride home:

- The staff will help you into the front seat of your car if needed. You may want to bring several pillows to keep yourself comfortable during the car ride.
- You may also want to have a blanket along if you get cold. You can also use the blanket to support your back or head/neck depending on how you position yourself in the car.
- We recommend bringing a water bottle during your stay, and ensure you have water to drink for the ride home.
- You may want to bring 1 or 2 ice packs along to help with pain/swelling.
- Pain medication can make you nauseous, as can riding in a car. You may want to bring a bag along in case you have an upset stomach and get sick.



PRE-OPERATIVE MEDICATION GUIDELINES

This information is a guideline for medication instructions prior to surgery. Please be sure to provide the surgery center or hospital with a complete list of your current medications so more specific instructions may be given.

MAOIs to be stopped 2 weeks prior to surgery (Marplan, Nardil, Emsam, Parnate)

Medications to stop 7 days prior to surgery:

- Aspirin products (Bayer, Excedrin, Ecotrin) if not prescribed by a physician for a medical condition
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories such as ibuprofen, Advil, Naprosyn, Aleve, Voltaren, Indocin, Naproxen
- All herbal supplements including fish oil, garlic, vitamin E, ginkgo biloba
- Semaglutide injections such as Ozempic and Wegovy

*** If taking any blood thinners prescribed by a physician (aspirin, Plavix, Warfarin, Eliquis, Xarelto, Brillinta, etc), consult the prescribing physician to determine appropriate discontinuation times. Certain cardiac patients may need to stay on aspirin up until the time of surgery. ***

If you are on an immunosuppressant medication such as Methotrexate, check with your prescribing physician regarding whether this needs to be stopped prior to surgery.

Medications to hold 72 hours prior to surgery:

- Jardiance and Farxiga

Medications to hold 24 hours prior to surgery:

- Metformin and other oral hypoglycemics such as pioglitazone, glimepiride, glipizide, Januvia
- ACE inhibitors such as lisinopril, benazepril, captopril, enalapril
- Angiotension II receptor antagonists such as losartan, valsartan, irbesartan
- Semaglutide oral medications such as Rybelsus

Medications to take with a sip of water the morning of surgery (if routinely taken in the morning):

- Cardiac medications including Digoxin
- Blood pressure medication except diuretics and ACE inhibitors/Angiotension II receptor antagonists as listed above. May take diuretics if in combination form with a beta blocker such as metoprolol/hydrochlorothiazide
- Steroid medications such as prednisone
- Anti-seizure medications such as Depakote, Keppra, Dilantin, Tegretol
- Chronic benzodiazepines such as Xanax
- Acid reflux medications such as Prilosec, Tagamet, Nexium, pantoprazole
- Medications for Parkinson's such as Carbidopa/Levodopa
- Gabapentin and Lyrica

Use any inhalers that you normally would in the morning. Please bring these with you to the hospital. If you use insulin, instructions regarding this will be given by the hospital or surgical center Pre-Admission nurses. You may use Tylenol for pain if needed when you have stopped the NSAID medication. This does not need to be stopped prior to surgery.

STD/FMLA Policy

If you are having surgery and will be unable to work, your employer may require you to have paperwork completed and the company that processes this paperwork may have a deadline for submission. **Please remember our processing time may take up to 10 business days, which begins on the 1st day when all required information is received by our office.** The required pieces of information are listed below.

Steindler Orthopedic requires three pieces of information to process your STD/FMLA forms. There is a 10-day processing time and will not begin until ALL required pieces have been received.

1. **A signed Release of Information:** This tells us who you are giving us legal permission to release your medical information to. This is required regardless of who will be receiving the information ie: insurance company, employer, yourself. If you have more than one form to complete, please provide both companies as they must be listed on the release with the fax/address provided. This form can be found on our website steindler.com under Patient Resources.
2. **Documents/Forms needing to be completed by the physician:** Your employer should provide these to you.
3. **Payment in full:** A \$20 service charge applies to only Disability & Loan forms to assist with covering the cost of processing the form. These costs also include but are not limited to the time required to complete the form as well as the transmission of forms and medical records.

Once you have submitted the three required pieces of information, your paperwork will be completed and sent to the employer or insurance company you have provided on the signed release of information form.

Please send the completed and signed STD/FMLA Form request, along with the forms from your employer to Diana Parisi. Any questions, please contact Diana via phone or email.

Direct Line: (319) 248-4504

Email address: dcparisi@steindler.com

Fax: (319) 338-0522

Polar Care Wave™

Cold and compression systems, like Polar Care Wave, have been shown to reduce the need for pain medicines and assist with patient recovery.



Polar Care Wave Benefits

1. Why cold and compression?

The Polar Care Wave system is a combination of cold and compression and may help you heal from a recent injury or surgery. The wave works with compression to reduce pain and swelling in the affected area, with the goal of a quicker recovery.

2. How does Polar Care Wave work?

It's simple. Fill the cooler with ice and water. There is a hose attached to the cooler that you connect to a pad that easily wraps around the affected area. Turn the system on and you will feel intermittent squeezing along with a cold sensation. You are able to adjust the level of cold and compression to your comfort.

3. What are the benefits of using Polar Care Wave?

- a. Reduces pain and swelling
- b. Reduces your trips to the freezer. Less messy and more convenient than bags of ice/gel packs
- c. Easy transport due to compact design
- d. May reduce pain medicine usage after injury

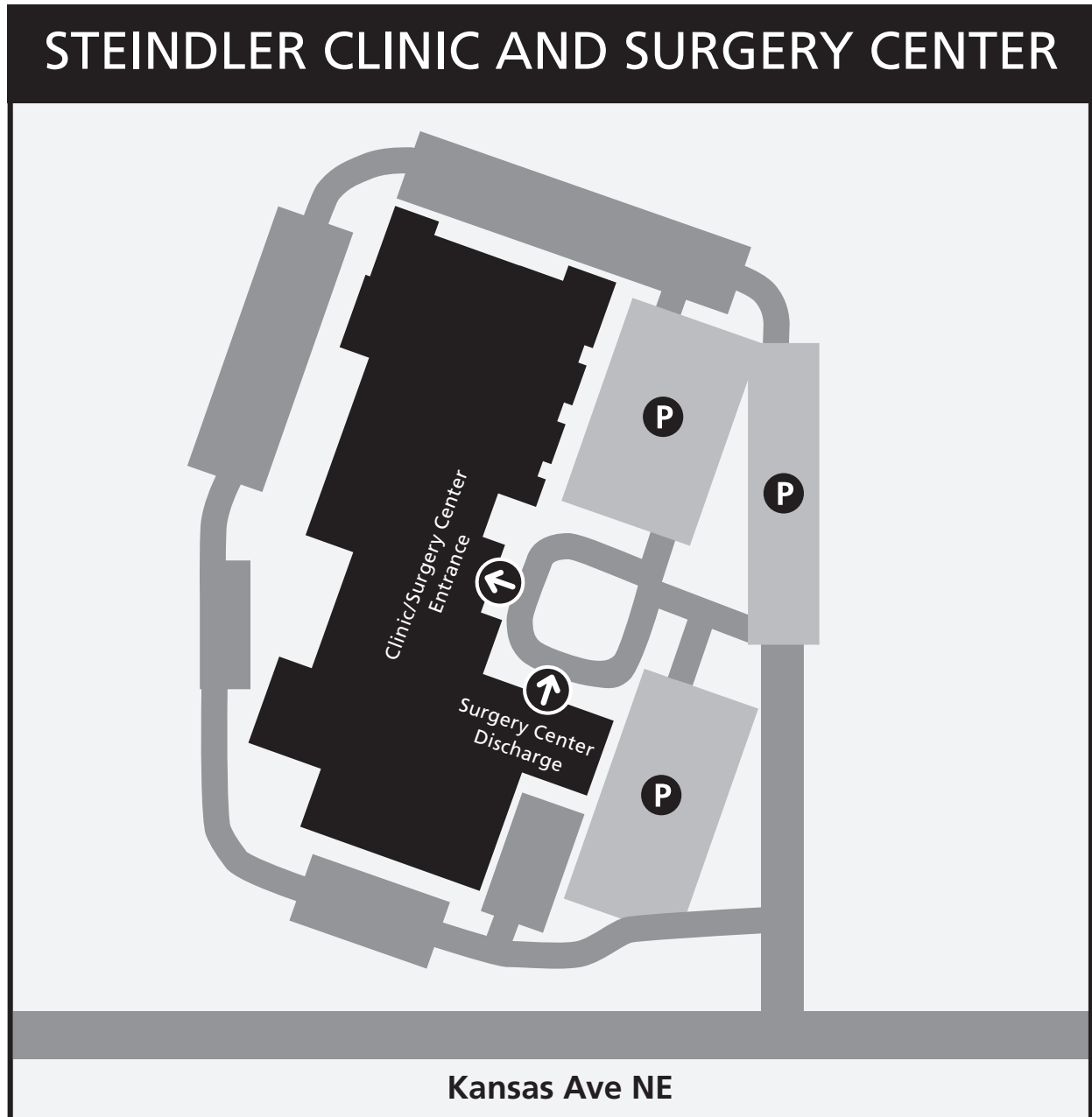
4. Will Insurance cover my Polar Care Wave?

All Cold Therapy systems including the Polar Care Wave are typically not covered by insurance. Pricing may be discussed with Steindler's Durable Medical Equipment department or physical therapy department.

5. How long do I need to use my Polar Care Wave?

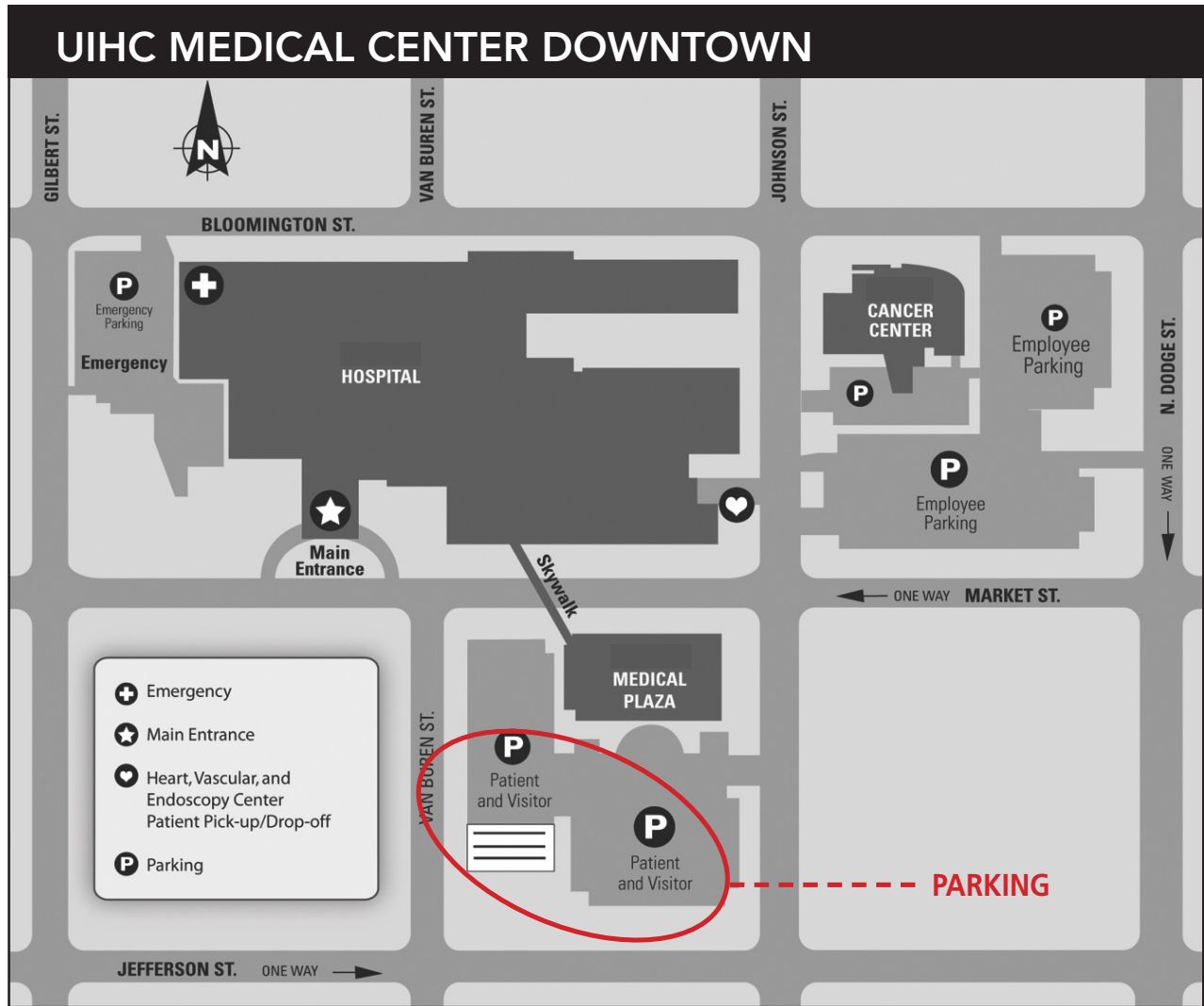
The use of cold therapy products will be dictated by your health care provider. We will provide you with instructions on frequency, compression level, temperature level, lengths of breaks between uses, and when/how to inspect skin during usage.

For more information, call Steindler Durable Medical Equipment department at **(319) 338-3606**, or talk to your physical therapist at your pre-op appointment. The learn more about the Polar Care Wave, visit www.breg.com/products/cold-therapy



2301 Steindler Way, North Liberty, IA 52317

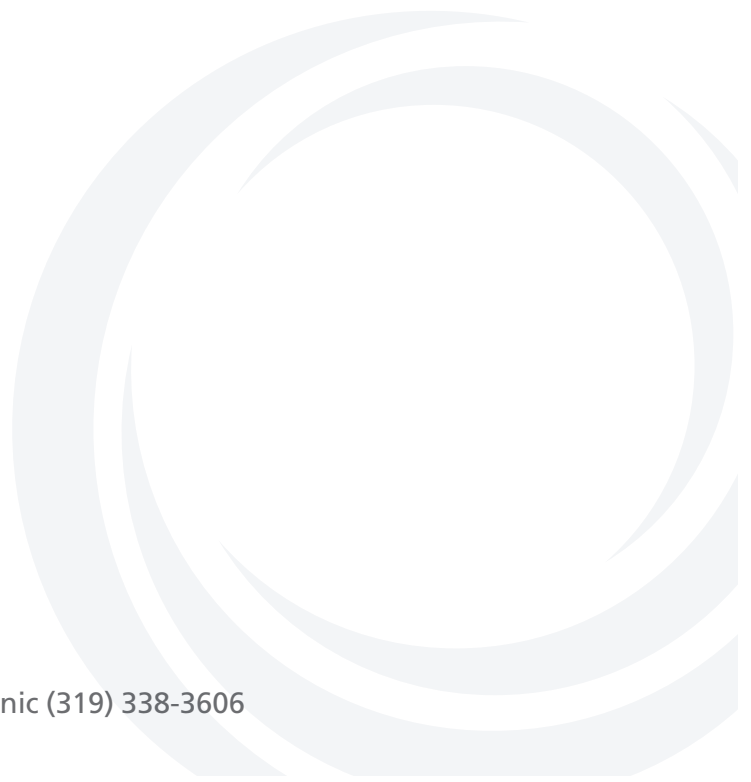
- You will use the same entrance to get to Steindler Orthopedic Clinic and Steindler Surgery Center.
- Go to the left door to reach the surgery center.
- After surgery, patients will be discharged from the surgery center exit.



500 East Market Street • Iowa City, IA 52245

Your Questions and Notes

While you are reading through this guide, write any questions below and bring them to your appointments:



Surgery Scheduling Department

Phone: (319) 600-8089

Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm



2301 Steindler Way, Suite B, North Liberty, IA 52317
(319) 338-3606 • Steindler.com



2301 Steindler Way, Suite A, North Liberty, IA 52317
(319) 259-8400 • Steindlerasc.com