

Liposuction Post-Operative Instructions

- Have someone drive you home after surgery and help you at home for 1-2 days.
- Decreased activity may promote constipation, so you may want to add more raw fruit to your diet, and be sure to increase fluid intake.
- Take pain medication as prescribed. Do not take aspirin or any products containing aspirin unless approved by your surgeon.
- Do not drink alcohol when taking pain medications.
- Even when not taking pain medications, no alcohol for 3 weeks as it causes fluid retention.
- If you are taking vitamins with iron, resume these as tolerated.
- Do not smoke, as smoking delays healing and increases the risk of complications.
- You need to purchase your compression garment and bring it with you to the hospital the day of surgery.
- Wear pressure garment 24 hours per day.
- You may shower 48 hours after surgery
- Start walking as soon as possible, this helps to reduce swelling and lowers the chance of blood clots.
- Do not drive until you are no longer taking any pain medications (narcotics).
- Activities involving the affected sites should be minimized for approximately 2 weeks.
- Strenuous exercise and activities such as sports should be avoided for 3-4 weeks, depending on the extent of the surgery.
- Most of the swelling and discoloration usually subsides in 6-8 weeks, but some may persist for 6 months
 or more
- Expect temporary numbness, bruising, swelling, soreness, burning sensation, bleeding, pain and discomfort.
- May have fluid drainage from incision sites. A drainage tube may be inserted beneath the skin to prevent fluid build-up.
- May feel stiff and sore for a few days.
- Bruising may be apparent beyond the areas of liposuction, partially due to gravity.
- A healthy diet and regular exercise helps to maintain your new figure.

When To Call

- If you have increased swelling or bruising.
- If swelling and redness persist after a few days.
- If you have increased redness along the incision.
- If you have severe or increased pain not relieved by medication.
- If you have any side effects to medications; such as, rash, nausea, headache, vomiting.
- If you have an oral temperature over 101.5 degrees.
- If you have any yellowish or greenish drainage from the incisions or notice a foul odor.
- If you have bleeding from the incisions that is difficult to control with light pressure.
- If you have loss of feeling or motion.