



## **Post-Operative Instructions** **Elbow Arthroscopy and Synovectomy**

### **Day of Surgery**

- A. Diet as tolerated.
- B. Pain medication as needed every 6 hours.
- C. Icing is important for the first 5-7 days post-op. While the post-op dressing is in place, icing should be done continuously. Once the dressing is removed on the first or second day, ice is applied for 20-minute periods 3-4 times per day. Care must be taken with icing to avoid frostbite.
- D. Make sure you have a physical therapy post-op appointment set up for the first week-10 days after surgery.

### **First Post-Operative Day**

- A. Continue icing
- B. You will need to keep your incision dry when taking a shower. Do this for about 2 weeks after surgery. If you have a splint or half cast (hardshell) leave it dry. No need to do dressing changes until your first follow-up visit at 2 weeks post-op.

### **Second Post-Operative Day**

- A. Continue icing

### **Third Post-Operative Day Until Return Visit**

- A. Continue ice pack as needed.
- B. If you don't have a splint or half cast, you may remove surgical bandage after you shower and apply regular bandages to the wounds. If you have splint you do not need to change anything. Keep extremity dry

**Call our office @ 646-501-7223 option 4, option 2 to confirm your first postoperative visit, which is usually about 1-2 weeks after surgery. If you are experiencing any problems, please call our office or contact us via the internet at [www.newyorkortho.com](http://www.newyorkortho.com).**