

Pain Medications

You may be prescribed **narcotic pain medication** after surgery for pain control. Common narcotic pain medications include: HYDROcodone (Vicodin, Norco), OxyCODONE (Percocet, Endocet), traMADol (Ultram) and HYDROmorphine (Dilaudid).

Potential side effects include but are not limited to:

- Constipation
- Drowsiness/dizziness
- Dry mouth
- Itching
- Nausea/GI upset

You may be prescribed a NSAID for **pain associated with inflammation**. Most commonly prescribed NSAIDs are: Celecoxib (Celebrex), Meloxicam (Mobic). For a more extensive list of NSAIDs, refer to Webmd.com/arthritis/anti-inflammatory-drugs.

Potential side effects include but are not limited to:

- Gas
- GI Upset
- Heartburn

Bowel/Constipation Medications

Constipation is a common side effect of narcotic pain medication. Most patients are discharged on over the counter stool softeners and laxatives to re-establish bowel habits. Follow the recommendations as given by your physician. You may be prescribed other medications at the time of discharge. Be sure to ask your discharge nurse to discuss side effects of any medication with which you are not familiar.

Blood Thinner Medications (Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Patients ONLY)

Joint surgery increases your risk of blood clot formation. Refer to our **Preparing for Surgery** booklet for more information. You may be prescribed blood thinner medication after surgery to reduce the risk of blood clots. Common blood thinner medications include: Aspirin, Warfarin (Coumadin), Enoxaparin (Lovenox), Fondaparinux (Arixtra), Rivaroxaban (Xarelto), Apixaban (Eliquis).

Rare but serious side effects that warrant a call to your physician:

- Black, tarry stools
- Blood in urine
- Coughing up blood
- Severe bruising
- Weakness on one side of body, trouble speaking, change in balance, drooping of one side of face