

**ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS AFTER JOINT REPLACEMENT**  
**For**  
**DR. MARK FIGGIE**

Although it is a rare occurrence, an artificial joint can become infected by the bloodstream carrying infection from another part of the body to the replaced joint. Therefore, it is important that any bacterial infection be treated promptly. If you are unsure of whether you need to take antibiotics, please call the office before taking any medication. We advise that you take antibiotics prior to the following invasive procedures for **2 years** from the date of your surgery.

Patients who have diabetes types 1 or 2, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, psoriatic arthritis, AIDS, hemophilia, and those patients who are immunosuppressed due to medications such as corticosteroids, chemotherapy and antirheumatic drugs must take prophylactic antibiotics for a lifetime. Additionally, if you have more than one joint replacement you will need to take antibiotics for a lifetime.

Patients should take Amoxicillin 2 grams (4 pills) one hour before having any of the following procedures. If you are allergic to Amoxicillin (Penicillin) please substitute Clindamycin 600 mg, or Biaxin 500 mg one hour before the procedure.

- Routine dental cleaning or dental procedures
- Root canal
- Podiatry procedures that involve cutting into the skin

For any type of invasive procedures regarding the urinary tract please take Amoxicillin 2 grams. If you are allergic please substitute Cipro 750 mg one hour prior to your procedure.

Patients do **NOT** require antibiotics for the following procedures:

- Manicures/Pedicures
- Colonoscopy/Endoscopy/Sigmoidoscopy
- Routine gynecologic exams/procedures/PAP smears/D&C's
- Cataract/laser eye surgery
- Injections or blood work
- Routine colds and flu and minor cuts and bruises

You may have a flu shot at any time following your surgery.