

## Patient information

### Post operative Hip and Knee Replacement Wound Information

#### Trauma and Orthopaedics

#### How will my wound be monitored?

During your stay in hospital, the nurse who takes care of you will have looked for any signs of infection.

Don't be tempted to remove your dressing or touch your wound as you may accidentally transfer germs from your fingers to your wound.

Infection can develop after you leave hospital. You may have an infection if you develop one or more of these symptoms:

- The skin around your wound starts to become red, sore or it feels hot and swollen. You may feel generally unwell or have a temperature.
- Dry staining on your dressing is acceptable, but if your dressing starts to become wet with fresh leakage you need to contact us as soon as possible before dressing becomes saturated.

**Do not take any antibiotics until you have been seen at the hospital.**

**Although limb swelling is expected as part of your hip or knee replacement surgery, you are at increased risk of DVT (deep vein thrombosis) following your surgery. This is why you are having blood thinning injections or tablets. If you experience any signs of DVT e.g. Calf pain, calf redness incorporating swelling, contact the ward for advice on 0151 282 6744.**

**An undiagnosed DVT can lead to Pulmonary embolism (PE) which can be life threatening.**

## **Feedback**

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

## **Further information**

### **Hospital Contact Numbers**

#### **Wound Helpline Service**

**Available Every Day from 07.30 to 20.00**

**Tel: 0151 706 2000 Bleep 4199**

**Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2000 Bleep 4199**

**Ward 2: 0151 282 6744**

**Author: Trauma and Orthopaedics**

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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