

Total Joint Replacement

Total joint replacement requires an investment in both time and energy. Therefore, it is important that your planning begins before the day of surgery. The Case Management Department at Portneuf Medical Center will assist in the management of your hospitalization from admission to discharge.

- **Before the day of your surgery, contact your insurance (unless it is Medicare) and:**
 - a. **Confirm that your surgery has been authorized.**
 - b. **Request information regarding: which *Home Health* agencies, *Durable Medical Equipment* providers and if needed *Skilled Nursing Facilities* are in-network.**

Discharge Planning

Please know ***who will be able to assist you at home***. You, and the Interdisciplinary Team; the physician, physical therapist, nurse and the case manager will decide if discharging home is safest for you. **Case Management team** will contact and arrange *Home Health* services (which provide physical therapy and a nurse for skilled services in the home) and assist in acquiring needed durable medical equipment.

You will need to ***determine what equipment you have available for use***. Most of our total joint patients require a **front wheeled walker**—insurance usually covers a portion of this cost. Equipment that is also utilized but most often ***not covered*** by insurance include: shower chair, high rise toilet, Reacher, sock aid, long handled shoe horn, and grab bars installed around your toilet, shower or tub. Patients often borrow equipment, find items at a thrift shop, online, or purchase from a medical supply or drug store. We have a list of agencies attached for you to choose from the immediate vicinity.

- Please choose a **Home Health agency that is in network (see attached)**. If you live out of the Pocatello area, the list may not be all inclusive. The staff at the hospital will make the initial referral and you will be contacted by the Home health agency when you go home. You **do not** need to call the agency ahead of time.

If it is decided that you are not ready to discharge home, the Case Manager will discuss options of *Skilled Nursing Facilities* (SNF) in your community. Patients will not be accepted to these facilities until after surgery. Acceptance will be based on medical necessity, bed availability and insurance authorization.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Case Management at the number listed below.





777 Hospital Way
Pocatello, Idaho 83201
(208) 239-1000 Phone
www.portmed.org

Case Management: Ph: 208-239-1469
Please leave a message if we are unable to answer,
and we will get back to you when we are able

