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IMPORTANT!

It is generally recommended that patients take prophylactic antibiotics before certain dental or medical procedures after you have had joint replacement surgery. The foreign material of metal and plastic create a possible impairment of your body's defenses for fighting infection in the joint replaced. I recommend you take prophylactic antibiotics before any of the following procedures:

- 1) Invasive dental work including prophylactic cleaning where bleeding is anticipated, extractions, implant placement, or root canal work.*
- 2) Urologic surgeries such as cystoscopy or insertion of a Foley catheter.*
- 3) Gynecological surgery such as dilatation and curettage.*
- 4) Instrumentation of the esophagus and stomach especially for strictures.*
- 5) Dermatologic cauterization of skin lesions.*
- 6) Podiatric procedures such as the treatment of infected toenails.*

As these areas are all basically considered contaminated by bacteria, antibiotics are recommended to prevent any transmission of bacteria to the joint replacement by the blood stream.

If the doctor performing these procedures has no specific antibiotic preference, I would recommend the following regimens:

- A) Not allergic to penicillin: Amoxicillin 2 grams orally one hour prior to procedure.*
- B) Allergic to penicillin: Clindamycin 600 mg orally one hour prior to procedure.*

Should you have any questions, please contact our office.