

You have undergone a total joint replacement procedure. There are instances when infection in one part of your body may cause bacteria to circulate in your blood, possibly resulting in infection at the site of your implant. Therefore, it is essential that you seek prompt treatment of infections anywhere in your body.

Good dental hygiene is important and you should see your dentist for regular dental care, whether or not you are having a dental problem. Prompt treatment of infections, particularly in the skin or urinary tract, is important.

If you are to undergo a dental or surgical procedure where the surgeon or dentist feels that there is a possibility of bacterial contamination, we recommend that a course of antibiotics be given. For dental procedures or procedures that require instrumentation of upper respiratory tract, we recommend Amoxicillin 2 grams orally 1 hour before the procedure. We recommend this antibiotic for gastrointestinal or genito-urinary procedures as well. If there is any allergy to Amoxicillin (or Penicillin), then use Cipro 500mg orally 1 hour before procedure then 500mg 12 hours after procedure.

The avoidance of bacterial contamination and infection should help reduce the risk of infection at the site of total joint implant. Since prompt treatment is essential, please do not hesitate to consult your personal physician, your dentist or me should such a situation arise.