

Patient Account Sticker Here

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Cholecystectomy Discharge Instructions

- No lifting more than 15 pounds for two weeks unless otherwise instructed.
- OK to drive when you have stopped using prescription pain pills.
- Leave dressing on for 48 hours.
- Keep area dry for 48 hours. May shower after 48 hours with incisions uncovered. Showers only for one week post op, NO baths.
- Leave steri-strips on the incision for one week unless they cause irritation then remove. Band-Aids may be used for comfort. You may leave incision open to air after showering post operatively.
- Avoid constipation. Avoid straining for bowel movements. May use fiber laxatives, stool softeners, or Milk of Magnesia as needed.
- Use stairs as tolerated.
- Avoid intercourse if painful.
- Wear surgical hose if up and ambulating well.
- Resume your regular diet and medications unless otherwise instructed.
- Return to work determined by surgeon.
- If you have any of the following occur, please contact your doctor:
 - Chills or fever over 101°
 - Severe pain not relieved by medication
 - Redness, drainage, foul odor, or swelling at surgical site
 - Persistent or heavy bleeding other than what was described by your doctor
 - Bleeding from surgical site 7-10 days after surgery.

Additional Instructions and Medications: _____

Follow up Appointment: _____ AT _____

If you have any questions regarding your care, please contact Northwest Iowa Surgeons at 712-262-6320.