



AESTHETIC FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY PLLC  
DR. PHILIP YOUNG, MD

## General Post-Operative Instructions

The following instructions should be followed closely except when overruled by specific procedural instructions. You must follow your surgeon's instructions as indicated for your specific procedure. Notify Dr. Young of any unusual changes in your condition and feel free to call the office with any questions.

1. You **MUST HAVE AN ADULT DRIVE YOU** home from the facility. You will not be allowed to drive yourself or use public transportation.
2. After your procedure you **MUST HAVE A RESPONSIBLE ADULT STAY WITH YOU** a minimum of 24 hours. You **CANNOT** be left alone. The 24 hours begin when you are discharged from the office or hospital. Have everything ready at home **PRIOR** to your procedure. Make arrangements for someone to stay with you. Let the person or persons know you cannot be left alone. This is important because of the danger of falling and you may lose the concept of time for the day and overmedicate yourself. Hence, you should always record how much and at what time you take your medications after your procedure.
3. The effects of anesthesia can persist for 24 hours. You must exercise extreme caution before engaging in any activity that could be harmful to yourself or others.
4. **DRINK** fluids to help rid the body of the drugs used in your procedure. If you have straws in the house you will tend to drink more fluids the first few days after your procedure.
5. Diet may be as tolerated. Eating foods that are bland and soft for the first day or so – foods like after you have had the flu – may be best tolerated. You must eat more than crackers and juice; otherwise you will continue to feel weak and will not heal as well. **REMEMBER** to take the medications with a little something to eat or you will get sick to your stomach.
6. Please avoid the use of alcoholic beverages for the first 24 hours (it dilates blood vessels and can cause unwanted bleeding) and as long as pain medications are being used (dangerous combination).
7. Take only medications that have been prescribed by Dr. Young for your postoperative care and take them according to the instructions on the bottle. Your pain medication may make you feel “spacey”; therefore, have someone else give you your medications according to the proper time intervals.
8. If you experience any generalized itching, rash, wheezing or tightness in the throat, stop taking all medications and call the office immediately, as this may be a sign of a drug allergy.



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9. You can expect moderate discomfort, which should be helped by the pain medications. The greatest discomfort is usually during the first 24 hours. Thereafter, you will find that you require less pain medication.
10. Call (425) 990-3223 if you have: SEVERE PAIN not responding to pain medication; Swelling that is greater on one side than the other; incisions that are RED OR FEVERISH; a FEVER; or if any other questions or problems arise.
11. Keep any DRESSINGS ON, CLEAN AND DRY. Do not remove them until instructed to do so. There may be some bloody drainage on the dressings. If you have excessive bleeding or the bandages are too tight, call the office immediately.
12. After your procedure it is important to have a bowel movement within a day or two. If you do not, you may take over the counter laxatives to encourage your bowels to move.
13. Minimal activity for the first 48 hours. No house cleaning, furniture rearranging, etc. Relax, be pampered, and let your body heal. The less energy you use on doing things, the more energy your body can focus on healing.
14. Limit lifting, pulling or pushing for the first week and better if you can avoid this for 2 weeks. The limit of lifting should be anything under 5 pounds.
15. Having your head of your bed elevated 45 degrees will help your swelling. This requires a pillow under the small of your back, two pillows under your shoulders and head, and if you have a pillow under each elbow you will relax and stay in position.
16. You are requested to remain within a reasonable traveling distance of the office for approximately 7-10 days.
17. Once cleared to shower you may do so every day. Please do not use the bathtub for 2 weeks. For the first 2 weeks, you should avoid really hot showers. Luke warm showers will prevent you from having bleeding, oozing and more swelling.
18. NO SMOKING for the first 2 weeks after your procedure. Any cheating will delay healing.
19. You may drive two days after anesthesia, once you are off the pain pills, and when you experience no pain with this activity (you need to be able to react quickly).
20. All surgeries involve some scarring, which can take up to a year to fade. No matter how small they may be, we still want them to heal as well as they are able. Exposing red scars to the sun can cause permanent discoloration. A good sunscreen (SPF 15 or higher) can help and will protect the surrounding tissues that might not feel a sunburn developing while the nerves are healing. Sunlight can even reach scars under a swimsuit, so take adequate precautions.



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21. DO NOT use a hot tub for 4 weeks.
22. AVOID sports or strenuous activities 4 to 6 weeks as your surgeon gives you clearance during your post-operative visits. This is to avoid any unnecessary complications (bleeding, bruising, and swelling).
23. You may return to work when you feel able and are cleared to do so by your surgeon.
24. Do not color your hair for 1 month after your procedure
25. Feel free to call upon us at any time. We want you to be as comfortable as possible during your healing period.