

## Post-operative Instructions

### Jowl Lift

#### Bandages:

- ✓ You stay at the clinic for one day. The postoperative care involves administering medicine (analgesic, and if necessary, antibiotics and anti-thromboembolism medicine) as well as regular checks on the patient's state.
- ✓ Cooling with ice compresses over the bandages is recommended for two to three days.
- ✓ During the first check-up, the bandages are changed and the wound is checked and rinsed with disinfectant. A new bandage is placed over the area.
- ✓ You must not remove the bandages on your own!
- ✓ In the immediate post-operative period until the wounds are healed, it is very important to use an elastic garment over the jaw. It compresses the operated areas and aids the healing process. You should still wear the elastic garment when discharged from the clinic, back at home and in their daily routine for 6 to 8 weeks.

#### Regime and Rest:

- ✓ Speaking, laughing and any movement of the mouth should be limited in the immediate post-operative period.
- ✓ Until the bandages are removed, it is important to rest. **The ideal position is on the back, with the head and body slightly elevated, to reduce, as much as possible, any post-operative complications** such as bleeding, haematomas or swelling. However, some of these are likely to appear, especially in the neck area.
- ✓ Get plenty of rest.
- ✓ Follow balanced diet.
- ✓ Decreased activity may promote constipation, so you may want to add more raw fruit to your diet, and be sure to increase fluid intake.
- ✓ Take pain medication as prescribed. Do not take aspirin or any products containing aspirin unless approved by your surgeon..
- ✓ Do not drink alcohol when taking pain medications.
- ✓ Even when not taking pain medications, no alcohol for 3 weeks as it causes fluid retention.
- ✓ If you are taking vitamins with iron, resume these as tolerated.

#### Activities:

- ✓ Start walking as soon as possible, as this helps to reduce swelling and lowers the chance of blood clots.
- ✓ Do not drive until you are no longer taking any pain medications (narcotics).
- ✓ Return to work in approximately 2 weeks.
- ✓ Avoid strenuous exercise and activities for 3-4 weeks.

#### **Incision Care:**

- ✓ If a drainage tube(s) has been placed, you may shower 48 hours after removal.
- ✓ Avoid exposing scars to sun for at least 12 months.
- ✓ Always use a strong sunblock, if sun exposure is unavoidable (SPF 30 or greater).
- ✓ Keep steri-strips on.
- ✓ Keep incisions clean and inspect daily for signs of infection.
- ✓ Hair can generally be shampooed in 2-3 days.
- ✓ Hair bleach and/or a permanent can be applied after complete healing, usually 3-4 weeks.
- ✓ When using a hair dryer, never use a "hot" temperature setting, as you may not have feeling in the operated area.

#### **Massages:**

- ✓ It is possible to apply pressure massages one week after the stitches have been removed or absorbed, if recommended by the doctor.
- ✓ Special lotions or gels minimising scars or haematomas can also be recommended by the physician.

#### **Undesirable Habits:**

- ✓ Smoking and addictive substances generally speed up ageing and slow down the healing process; they should be avoided (at least one to two months).

#### **Possible Reactions after the Operation:**

- ✓ In some cases your temperature may slightly rise for a period of two to three days. An analgesic can easily ease the discomfort connected to any possible pain in the area operated upon.

#### **Possible Complications:**

- ✓ Post-operative bleeding, or bleeding caused by insufficient post-operative care at home.
- ✓ Swelling, discoloration, and tightness of skin for 10-14 days.
- ✓ Prolonged healing
- ✓ Haematomas
- ✓ Infection of the wound
- ✓ Imperfect effect resulting from nonobservance of the post-operative instructions given by the doctor.

#### **When to Call:**

- ✓ If you have increased swelling or bruising.
- ✓ If swelling and redness persist after a few days.
- ✓ If you have increased redness along the incision.
- ✓ If you have severe or increased pain not relieved by medication.
- ✓ If you have any side effects to medications; such as, rash, nausea, headache, vomiting.
- ✓ If you have any yellowish or greenish drainage from the incisions or notice a foul odor.
- ✓ If you have bleeding from the incisions that is difficult to control with light pressure.
- ✓ If you have loss of feeling or motion.

These instructions are based on a normal post-operative condition. Healing and recovering are highly individual processes and apart from the patients' capacity to heal these also depend on their conscientiousness and respecting the post-operative instructions.

We would love to see how the healing process went and if you are satisfied with the results. Could you please send us some pictures after 2-3 months after the surgery so we can evaluate the results of the treatment.

**Cosmetic Surgery Post-operative Care:**

For full post-operative care, including wound dressings, removal of sutures, wound fluid aspiration and general advice following the surgery, our patients can receive preferential rates at:

**Medical Express Clinic**

117a Harley Street  
London W1G 6AT  
Tel: 02074991991

or

**Karen Marwood-Jones R.G.N.**

4 Upper Wimpole Street  
London W1G 6LF  
Tel: 07901822393

The cost of the consultation will vary, according to the nature of your surgery. For standard wound care and suture removal, MediCzech patients will be charged only £80 per session.

or

**Judith Jobling, RGN. RM. INP. LLB (Hons)**

Aesthetic and Bariatric Nurse Specialist and Band Fill Practitioner

Beauty Is Skin Deep  
3 Chiltern Avenue, Flixton  
Manchester M41 8SX  
Tel: 07947606275

Free personal consultation at clinic which is situated near motorways and close to the Trafford Centre. Evening and weekend appointments available. Home visits can be arranged at extra cost.