



Antibiotic Prophylaxis for Patients after Total Joint Replacement

- Take prophylactic antibiotics prior to dental procedures that might cause bleeding for the rest of your life if convenient and you do not mind the risk of allergic reactions or side effects from the antibiotic. You can usually get the antibiotics for free at Publix grocery stores. If you do not want to take the antibiotics, forget to take them, any of this presents a hardship, or you have experienced side effects, then do not take the antibiotics and do not worry about it. Go ahead and have the procedure without antibiotics knowing that the overwhelming odds are that you will be fine and existing published evidence does not support their routine use anyway.
- The antibiotics recommended are 2 g of oral cephalexin, cephradine, or amoxicillin or 600mg of oral clindamycin 1 hour before dental procedures.
- Either your dentist (or other healthcare provider planning a procedure) or your joint re-placement team can prescribe the antibiotics.
- All bacterial infections (especially of the skin close to your joint) should be treated with antibiotics to try to prevent the spread of germs to your joint replacement.
- Colonoscopy: Antibiotics are not generally recommended
- Cystoscopy (urinary bladder scope): Antibiotics only needed if there is an infection
- Eye surgery: No special antibiotics needed for joint prosthesis
- Other procedures: Do what the provider usually does or recommends for your situa-tion. Or call us.