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Post-Operative Rectocele Instructions

Procedure:

Pushing down of the rectum from vagina

What to Expect:

1. Your incision is in the vagina. Expect to have vaginal discharge with blood for up to 4-6wks as the sutures dissolve. Use pads as needed.
2. You may have two very small wounds in the inner thigh near your groin. You may feel some skin glue on these sites. This glue will dissolve away.
3. The majority of your discomfort will be in your vaginal area, tail bone and buttocks. This soreness results from the positioning of your legs during the surgery. The pain in your tail bone area can last several weeks, it is especially worse in the sitting position.
4. Delayed bowel movement. It may take up to 3-5 days before your first bowel movement. Do not push or strain to have a bowel movement. It is very helpful to take a daily fiber supplement such as Colace, Metamucil, Benefiber or Fibercon for one month after surgery.
5. You may have a very small amount of blood in the urine. Call your doctor if you are passing clots.
6. You may have a slight burning sensation when you urinate for 1-5 days
7. You will be discharged home on a pain killer and antibiotic
8. There is a possibility you will be discharged home with a catheter draining your bladder. You will be taught how to use a leg bag to drain the bladder prior to discharge. This is NOT unusual. It is sometimes difficult to urinate after surgery because of all the swelling. See your physician 1wk after surgery to remove the catheter

Activity and Limitations:

1. Do NOT rest in bed all day. Walking and climbing stairs is **encouraged**.
2. **NO** heavy lifting, nothing greater than 10-15 pounds for 4-6wks after surgery
3. **NO** intercourse for at least 4-6wks after the procedure
4. Showers are OK immediately after surgery. **NO** tub baths, pools or Jacuzzis for 4-6wks



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Return to Work:

This is dependent on the type of work you do; please discuss this with your physician during your follow-up visit.

Call your physician for the following:

Temperature > 101.5

Excessive vaginal bleeding. Saturating a pad in less than 2-3hrs

Inability to urinate