



## **Gluteus Medius Repair / Bursectomy / ITB Lengthening *Pre-Operative Instructions***

### **Surgery Scheduling:**

- You will be contacted by our team's clinical liaisons to schedule your surgery date. If you do not hear from our schedulers within 2 weeks, please contact our team
- Closer to the date of surgery - A nurse from the hospital or surgery center will contact you. Typically, the week before and/or the day before your surgery, to let you know surgery time and check-in time

### **Surgery Location:**

- Your surgery will be at one of the following locations:

**OrthoColorado Hospital**  
(connected to St. Anthony's  
Hospital)  
11650 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Lakewood, CO 80228

**SkyRidge Medical Center**  
(Spine and Total Joint Center)  
10101 Ridgeway Pkwy  
Lone Tree, CO 80124

**South Denver Surgery Center**  
300 E. Mineral Avenue, Suite 9  
Littleton, CO 80122

### **Preoperative testing:**

- Dr. Ellman requires pre-operative testing and surgery clearance for all patients over the age of 65 or if you have any medical conditions.
- This may consist of basic bloodwork and/or seeing your medical doctor and/or cardiologist.
- This clearance must be completed within 30 days of your surgery, and faxed to the office PRIOR TO SURGERY. If the information is incomplete or not received your surgery may be cancelled.

### **General Activity:**

- You will be **50% weightbearing** on the operative leg for approximately 6 weeks using crutches or a walker
- You will likely need help from family/friends/neighbors following the surgery. If you feel you need additional accommodations/help at home after surgery, please e-mail or call the office prior to surgery.

### **Time off work/Disability paperwork:**

- Due to the physical restraints following surgery, most patients may require time off work
- Please submit by email or fax any necessary disability paperwork documentation from your work to our office prior to surgery. Please include the ADDRESS OR FAX NUMBER where you would like this submitted and the DATE you would like to return to work. Please allow 7-10 business days for completion.

### **Physical therapy:**

- All patients should start physical therapy **2 weeks** postoperatively
- Prior to surgery, call your PT clinic of choice and set up your PT appointments.
- Pick a physical therapy clinic near your home that you will be able to get to easily so you can be compliant with your program. Contact our team if you need a recommendation for a therapist familiar with Dr. Ellman's protocol

### **Equipment:**

#### **Hip Brace**

- All patients are required to wear a special hip brace for the first 6 weeks after surgery while ambulating. You do NOT need to wear the brace when: sleeping, icing, showering, going to the bathroom
- Our equipment team will contact you within 2 weeks of your surgery to schedule an appointment in person at one of our clinic to be fitted for the brace.

#### **Crutches**

- You will need to use crutches/walker immediately after your surgery.
- You are responsible for obtaining your crutches/walker of your preference prior to your surgery.
- ***We strongly advise you make at least one appointment with your physical therapist prior to your surgery for crutch/walker training***

#### **Ice Machine**

- You may buy an ice machine or use ice bags after surgery
- While we prefer the ice machine, we do realize this is an out-of-pocket expense, and we are OK with you simply using ice bags postoperatively.

### **Medications prior to surgery:**

- **STOP:** Motrin, Advil, Ibuprofen, Aleve, Naproxen, Mobic, Aspirin, Herbal supplements and vitamins seven days prior to surgery.
- **LIMIT:** Use of narcotic pain medications (if you take them). This will make it easier to manage post op pain. (examples: norco, vicodin, percocet)
- Contact your primary doctor: If you take Coumadin, Lovenox, Ticlid or any other blood thinners. Your doctor will need to help manage starting and stopping these medicines. Please make Dr. Ellman aware if you take these medications.
- **Morning of surgery:** you may take your cardiac medications and if you are diabetic and take LONG ACTING insulin, take HALF of your AM dose.
- **DO NOT TAKE morning of surgery:** Diuretics (or any blood pressure medications with a diuretic component), oral diabetic medications, regular (short acting) insulin.

**Night before surgery:**

- DO NOT eat or drink anything after midnight.
- Do NOT smoke after midnight.
- Medications can be taken with a small sip of water.
- Wash with HIBICLENS soap and repeat the morning of surgery (available at Walgreens or CVS).

**What to bring with you to surgery:**

- Comfortable clothes to wear home (the brace will go over your clothes)
- A friend or family member to drive you home and to stay with you for the duration of the surgery day
- A list of meds and medical problems to provide to anesthesia team
- Your pharmacy number so the nursing staff can call in your medications

**Hospital Stay:**

- The surgery is an **outpatient** procedure, but some patients elect to stay in the hospital one night for pain control and crutch/walker training.
- The decision of to stay overnight will be made by you, your family, and the nurses assisting you after surgery.
- If you elect to stay overnight, you will be placed in our observation unit and will be required to clear physical therapy to be discharged

**Insurance information:**

- Dr. Ellman's office will pre-certify your surgery with your insurance company.
- Please provide us with the most up-to-date information regarding your insurance. Your benefits will be verified.
- If you are under Workman's Compensation, written authorization will be obtained before scheduling surgery.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

\*\*There are several unlisted hip procedures (CPT code 29999/27299) that are deemed medically necessary per Dr. Ellman's expertise to achieve optimal outcomes following surgery. Unfortunately, these services are still considered "investigational or unproven" by insurance companies and are not reimbursed.

\*\*Please read Dr. Ellman's non-covered service waiver form for further details. You may contact our billing department for any questions regarding this fee

## ***Post-Operative Instructions***

### **Prescription Medications:**

- **Blood thinner**
  - You will take a blood thinner following surgery to help prevent blood clots
  - Patients are typically put on Aspirin 81mg twice daily for 14 days.
  - Let our team know if you are unable to take NSAIDs, have any previous history of blood clots or blood thinning disorders, and/or are currently take any blood thinners
- **Oxycodone** or whichever pain medication is decided at your surgery conference. This is a strong narcotic and should only be used for post-operative pain as needed. Do not drive or drink alcohol while taking these medications.
- **Methocarbamol** (Robaxin) 750mg every 8 hours as needed for muscle spasms

### **Wound Care**

- Leave the bulky surgical bandage on and DO NOT shower for 48 hours.
- After 48 hours, you may remove bandages and gauze but keep steri strips in place.
  - You may shower at this point.
  - Cover incision sites with waterproof bandage prior to getting into the shower for first 7 days.
    - Should the incisions accidentally get wet, pat them dry with a clean towel. DO NOT SCRUB.
- It is normal to see a lot of blood-tinged soaked fluid on the bandages.
  - This may appear to be a pinkish-yellow fluid and is normal.
  - DO NOT APPLY LOTIONS OR OINTMENTS TO THE INCISION SITES
- Your stitches are absorbable and do not need to be removed.
- DO NOT soak in any pool/bath water until 4 weeks after surgery.

### **Physical Therapy**

- You will start physical therapy **2 weeks** after surgery. This will consist of gait training, range of motion exercises, and progressive strengthening exercises to improve function.
- You will receive specific instructions for physical therapy protocol at your follow-up clinic appointments.

### **Weight Bearing**

- You will be able to put **50%** of your weight on the operative leg and will need crutches/walker for approximately **6 weeks** after surgery, and then advance to full weight-bearing at that time.
- Do not increase your weight bearing status unless otherwise directed by Dr. Ellman or his team.

### **Brace**

- As mentioned above, you will be fitted for a brace prior to your surgery.
- The brace will be worn for the same amount of time as crutches, ~6weeks
- This brace should be worn while ambulating but you may take it off while icing, showering, physical therapy, sleeping, or sitting
- **Brace Settings:**
  - 0 degrees extension – 90 degrees flexion
  - Neutral rotation
  - 20 degrees Abduction

### **Ice Therapy**

- For the first 72 hours, ice as much as you can! – Ideally ice 20 minutes on, 20 minutes off.
- After 72 hours - ice 4-5 times per day, then as needed after 2 weeks
- Place the ice onto the hip over a thin layer of clothing or material, but never directly onto the skin.
- Ice machines may be used instead of ice packs and are a great resource. You may purchase these online or through medical distributors. Contact our equipment team for any further inquiries

### **General activity and sleeping**

- Alternate sitting, reclining, and lying down as much as you can tolerate
- Laying around too much can create stiffness, so we recommend moving at least once every hour
- If you need a work note to get up from your desk, please let us know and we can send a note in to your employer.
- While sleeping, it is recommended to place a pillow between your legs to keep your legs spread apart. This will prevent you from putting excess stress on your repaired tendons while you sleep.

### **Follow-up**

- You will need to follow up in clinic with Dr. Ellman's team 10-14 days from your surgery date.
- Please call central scheduling to make an appointment (contact information below) if this was not made when your surgery was scheduled.

### **When You Should Contact the Office**

- If you have a fever >100.4 degrees F.
  - A low grade temperature (even up to 100 degrees) is expected after surgery, but let us know if it gets this high!
- If you develop chills or sweats.
- If you have pus, significant pain, or redness surrounding the incision sites.
- If you are unable to urinate >1-2 days after surgery
- All contact information can be found below



## Contact Information for Dr. Michael Ellman

Phone: 720-497-6605

Fax: 720-497-6730

Email: [drellmanpc@panoramaortho.com](mailto:drellmanpc@panoramaortho.com)

Department	Reasons to call	Contact Information
<b>Care Navigation (Triage Dept)</b> (7am-5pm M-F) *Excluding Holidays	Medical questions or concerns that require immediate attention	Call: 303-233-1223 Extension 1100
<b>Prescription Refills</b> (8am-3pm M-F) *Excluding Holidays	Refills for prescriptions Change in prescriptions	Call: 720-497-6605 (Requests after 3pm are handled the next business day)
<b>Appointment Scheduling</b> (7am-5pm M-F) *Excluding Holidays	Schedule follow up appointments and office visits Answers questions regarding patient appts	Call: 303-233-1223 Option 2, then option 1
<b>Disability/FMLA Paperwork</b>	Questions and concerns regarding disability, FMLA, return to work paperwork	Fax forms to: 720-497-6730 Email: <a href="mailto:drellmanpc@panoramaortho.com">drellmanpc@panoramaortho.com</a> or drop off paperwork in person at any office **Please allow 5-7 business days for completion**
<b>Pre-Authorizations</b> (9am-4:30pm M-F) *Excluding Holidays	Insurance authorization questions and concerns regarding surgery, injections and imaging ordered by physician (MRI, CT, ultrasounds, EMG's)	Call: 303-233-1223 Extension 1011
<b>Panorama Physical Therapy</b>	Schedule physical therapy appointments  Questions or concerns for your Therapist	Centralized Scheduling Office 303-274-7330

<b>Billing and Customer Service Office</b>	Questions on Insurance or Billing	720-497-6637
<b>OrthoColorado Hospital</b>	Pre-Admit Testing Questions Check-in and Surgery Times	720-321-5450 720-321-5170
<b>SkyRidge Medical Center</b>	General Questions Check-in and Surgery Times	720-225-6902
<b>South Denver Surgery Center</b>	General Questions Check-in and Surgery Times	720-360-3400 (main line)
<b>Hip Brace Questions</b>	Questions about use of hip brace / settings	DME staff P: 303-233-1223 x1600



## Surgery Checklist

*Please find below a checklist for you to fill out and keep your surgical information organized!*

### **Surgery and equipment:**

- Surgery Location (highlight one):

**OrthoColorado Hospital**  
(connected to St. Anthony's  
Hospital)  
11650 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Lakewood, CO 80228

**SkyRidge Medical Center**  
(Spine and Total Joint Center)  
10101 Ridgeway Pkwy  
Lone Tree, CO 80124

**South Denver Surgery Center**  
300 E. Mineral Avenue, Suite 9  
Littleton, CO 80122

- Surgery Date:
- Surgery Time (you will be notified the business day prior to surgery):
- Time to stop eating food and drink prior to surgery:
- Hip Brace Fitting (date, time, location):

### **Check once you have completed:**

- Scheduled physical therapy appointments (Start PT 2 weeks after surgery)
- Obtained crutches
- Health clearance completed by PCP

### **Prior to surgery discontinue (or notify our team if questions):**

- Discontinue NSAIDs, vitamins, minerals and supplements one week prior to surgery
- Cancel any dental appointments 6 weeks prior to AND post surgery
- Discontinue semaglutide or tirzepatide (Ozempic/Mounjaro/Wegovy) one week prior to surgery.
- If you are diabetic and take metformin, consult with your PCP/endocrinologist about when to discontinue and resume this medication
- Notify the surgical team if you have a bleeding or clotting disorder, or if you have previously been diagnosed with a blood clot. If you have a hematologist that monitors these disorders, notify them of your upcoming surgery





## Gluteus Medius Repair Non-Covered Service Waiver

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

### Non-Covered Service Waiver

**[ ] Standard Flat Fee:** There are several unlisted hip procedures (CPT code 29999/27299) that are deemed medically necessary per Dr. Ellman’s expertise to achieve optimal outcomes following surgery. Unfortunately, these services are still considered “investigational or unproven” by insurance companies and are not reimbursed. Therefore, Panorama will collect a flat fee of \$500 *before* your hip procedure. This fee is required to continue the surgical process with Dr. Ellman.

Gluteus Medius repairs are in some cases considered “investigational” by some insurance companies, despite studies demonstrating excellent success rates. If Dr. Ellman performs a gluteus medius repair on your hip, you may be charged an additional \$1,000 *after* surgery to cover costs associated with the procedure. We will always attempt to charge your insurance company first, but if they elect not to pay, you may be responsible for payment following surgery.

I understand that I am responsible for the standard flat fee payment of \$500 prior to my hip procedure and may be balance billed another \$1,000 for a total fee of \$1,500 for my procedure if my insurance does not cover it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Responsible Party**

**Date**