

## WHEN TO CALL THE OFFICE OR VISIT THE HOSPITAL

**After-Hours Urgent Situations:** Rarely surgical urgencies can occur after you have left the office. Please call our office and request to speak to Dr. Farmer or Dr. Farmer's team for urgent concerns during or after hours. While we are happy to assist, we kindly ask that you reserve the after-hours line for urgencies. Many common questions are addressed in this document.

1. **Bleeding:** If the surgical site continues to bleed after following these steps or you are unable to carry out these recommendations, please contact us immediately or visit the nearest emergency room.

*Remain Calm:* Seeing blood can be alarming, but staying calm is essential to prevent an increase in heart rate and blood pressure, which can worsen bleeding.

*Initial Bleeding:* Some oozing is normal. If the bandage becomes soaked with blood, remove it and apply direct pressure to the bleeding area for 30 minutes without peeking. You can use a Coban wrap or similar wrap to hold the pressure. If bleeding persists or if a blood vessel appears to be squirting, seek immediate medical attention.

*Fainting:* If you or your caretaker feels faint at the sight of blood, lie down and elevate your legs until the feeling passes.

2. **Infection:** A certain degree of redness and the presence of minimal pus is normal during healing. However, spreading redness, increasing swelling, pain that worsens beyond 72 hours, increased drainage of pus, a fever over 101°F, or a foul odor from the wound are concerning signs of infection. Most infections are minimal and can be addressed during regular office hours, but please do not hesitate to contact us anytime with your concerns.
3. **Allergic Reactions:** If you experience a significant allergic reaction to medication, discontinue use and contact our office immediately.
4. **Other Serious Symptoms:** If you experience shortness of breath, chest pain, lightheadedness that does not resolve with lying down, severe vomiting, uncontrollable pain, or asymmetric swelling in your limbs, seek immediate medical attention.

Forefront Offices:

**Knightdale (919) 217-5510**

**Goldsboro (919) 736-0222**

WakeMed Raleigh: 3000 New Bern Ave, Raleigh, NC 27610

WakeMed North: 10000 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC 27614

WakeMed Cary: 1900 Kildaire Farm Rd, Cary, NC 27518

WakeMed Apex: 120 Healthplex Way, Apex, NC 27502

WakeMed Garner: 400 US-70 East, Garner, NC 27529

Duke Raleigh: 3400 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC 27609

UNC REX: 4420 Lake Boone Trail, Raleigh, NC 27607

UNC Health Wayne Goldsboro: 2700 Wayne Memorial Dr, Goldsboro, NC 27534