Postoperative Instructions For Dr. Momtazi's Carpal Tunnel Release Patients

These instructions are designed to help you care for your hand and obtain the best possible results.

Dressings

- Please remove all dressings two days after your surgery; at this time, you should start daily showers
- Bruising to your wrist and swelling to your hand is completely normal and expected

Showers

- Gently wash all of your skin, including the area where you had your surgery, daily using mild soap and water
- Any soap is ok, but avoid fragrances
- Do not use alcohol or peroxide to clean your skin
- After washing, pat all areas dry and leave open to air
- If you wish to cover the area, you may reapply a light gauze dressing
- Do not apply creams, moisturizers, oils, or other products on or near where you had your surgery

<u>Pain</u>

- Pain to the area where you had your surgery is normal and expected; this should improve over several days
- If you have pain, start by taking BOTH Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Advil (ibuprofen) together, as ordered
- It is safe to take Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Advil (ibuprofen) at the same time (unless otherwise directed)
- If you continue to have pain, you can ADD the prescription pain medication ordered by your doctor
- It is safe to take Tylenol, Advil and prescription pain medication at the same time

Activity

- Avoid strenuous activity (nothing that will increase your blood pressure) for at least 2 weeks
- Do not lift more than 5 pounds with your affected hand for at least 2 weeks
- Gently moving your fingers and wrist is ok
- Activities such as showering, cooking and moving around your home are ok

Follow up

Questions

- If you have questions about your carpal tunnel surgery, please call our office (780) 540-9250.
- We are available Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

<u>Urgent concerns/emergencies</u>

- For urgent concerns outside of regular office hours, please call (780) 735-4111
- Tell the operator that you are Dr. Momtazi's patient and ask to speak with the plastic surgeon on call

