

Surgery Overview

1. **Thank you for trusting Dr. Sharma to perform your surgery.**
 - Surgery is never an easy decision. Dr. Sharma takes your trust very seriously and understands how important and overwhelming this can be.
 - For any surgery to work, you must be comfortable with the plan.
2. **Make sure you are completely comfortable with the decision to proceed with surgery.**
 - If you have any questions or uncertainty, do not hesitate to ask.
 - You can also request a pre-operative appointment with Dr. Sharma's PA to review the surgery and go over the postoperative care, if you want.
3. **Every surgery has risk.**
 - While the risks tend to be low overall, there is always risk.
 - The risks can be grouped into infection, bleeding, anesthesia, and then risks specific to the surgery itself. Dr. Sharma reviewed the risks and benefits of surgery with you in clinic.
 - If you have any questions about the risks, please let us know.
4. **There is never a 100% guarantee any surgery will work.**
 - Dr. Sharma only offers surgery if he believes, in his judgment, that the likelihood of the surgery improving you and your symptoms far exceeds the chance it will not.
 - However, there is never a complete guarantee any surgery will work by any surgeon, and you may end up dissatisfied with the outcome.
5. **Following the postoperative instructions is as important to the outcome of the surgery as the surgery itself.**
 - You will be given a written copy of these on the day of surgery.
 - Make sure you comply with the instructions as strictly and specifically as possible. If you have any questions, please let us know.
6. **Lifting more than instructed, even once, can completely negate a perfectly performed surgery.**
 - With many surgeries, you only get one good shot the first time to maximize success, making compliance most important.
7. **Narcotics and other pain medications are prescribed for 6 weeks only after surgery.**
 - Dr. Sharma is not trained in the management of chronic pain, which requires its own unique expertise. Therefore, it's not safe for us to prescribe chronic pain medications long-term.
8. **Work restrictions are given until the incisions have healed.**
 - We are not trained in evaluation and management of permanent disability and/or impairment ratings, and therefore it's not safe or appropriate for us to perform this.
9. **If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let us know.**