# **Post Operative Patient Information**

## Knee Arthroscopy

### Analgesia

- It is not uncommon for patients to encounter more pain on the first or second day after surgery. This is when the swelling peaks.
- Using the pain medication regularly and as directed will help with keeping the pain under control and enable you to recover quickly.
- $\circ$   $\;$  Taking pain medication before bedtime will assist in sleeping
- Icing the knee can also aid in pain relief.
- Ice can be applied for 20 minute periods, 3-4 times per day. Use a thin cloth or towel on the skin then the ice pack.

#### Wounds Dressings

- Any bandages in place should be left for 24 hours.
- Remove bandages after 1 day. Tubigrip can be applied on the knee.
- *Keep the dressings dry and intact*. Do not remove any dressings that are in place.
- If for any reason the dressings become blood soaked or are starting to lift you may obtain dressings to replace these from your local chemist.
- Ensure that you wash your hands prior to changing these dressings to reduce the risk of infection.
- It is not uncommon for a small amounts of blood to be on the dressings
- If bright red blood persists despite elevation and application of ice, please call the Practice Nurse (see below).
- Elevate the area as much as possible for the first 1-3 days to decrease the swelling.

#### Full weight bearing is advised unless otherwise instructed

#### You are advised not to drive a vehicle until your next review appointment

The Practice Nurse – Alicia will see you 10-14 days after your knee arthroscopy. This appointment will be in your discharge information. **Please collect your xrays on discharge from the hospital**. If unexpected problems, emergencies or other issues occur, please call me, or my nurse Alicia at (07) 4727 4111 or email: <u>alicia@tsvllc.com.au</u>