

Suction-assisted Lipectomy

After Visit Summary

This is general information. Please see your After Visit Summary for how to take care of yourself after surgery.

Your health care team will work with you to understand any challenges you have after your hospital stay. This will help your team work toward a plan to make sure you have the right care and support to help manage your health after you leave the hospital.

Your Surgery

A suction-assisted lipectomy is the removal of fat cells. This surgery is most often done on the chin, abdomen, hips, thighs, knees and ankles.

What to Expect After Surgery

For hip and thigh lipectomy, wear the elastic undergarment as directed by your health care provider.

Before the Surgery

- Tell your health care provider if you:
 - are pregnant
 - have a latex allergy
 - have diabetes
 - take a blood-thinner medicine.
- Remove any jewelry or piercings.
- Arrange to have someone drive you home. You will not be able to drive after the surgery.

Pain Relief

- Take any prescription or over-the-counter medicine as directed.
- Use an ice pack for 48 to 72 hours to reduce swelling.
 - Place a cloth between your skin and the ice pack.
 - Alternate ice 30 minutes on and 30 minutes off while you are awake.

Activity

- Your health care provider will tell you when it's OK for you to shower, drive, return to work, exercise and have sex.
- Slowly return to your regular level of activity.
- Follow your health care provider's directions for how much you can safely lift.
- Rest as needed.
- Avoid tobacco and secondhand smoke. They can slow your recovery.

Incision Care

- Follow any directions your health care provider gives you.
- If you have a drain, follow your health care provider's directions on how to care for it.
- Don't use lotions, creams, ointments, gels or powders on your incision site.

Food and Beverages

- Eat well-balanced meals. Follow any instructions your health care provider gave you.
- Avoid alcohol while you are taking prescription pain medicine.

When To Call Your Health Care Provider

Call your health care provider if you:

- have a temperature of 101 F or higher
- have new pain or pain you can't control
- have bleeding that gets worse
- have problems having a bowel movement
- have signs of infection at your incision site:
 - pain
 - swelling
 - redness
 - odor
 - warmth
 - green or yellow discharge
- are unable to get out of bed
- have nausea (upset stomach), bloating or vomiting (throwing up) that won't stop
- have any questions or concerns.

Follow-up Appointment

Please keep all follow-up appointments with your health care provider or specialist, even if you are feeling well.