

**ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS PROTOCOL FOR PATIENTS  
WHO HAVE HAD TOTAL JOINT SURGERY**

If you have had a total joint replacement, certain precautions must be taken to reduce the chance that infection develops in the bone or around the implant. These precautions should be followed for **AT LEAST TWO YEARS** after your joint replacement. If you have an increased risk for infection, you should use antibiotic prophylaxis for the rest of your lifetime. The conditions that require lifetime antibiotic prophylaxis include, but are not limited to:

1. Inflammatory type of arthritis (e.g. rheumatoid arthritis or lupus)
2. Weakened immune system disease (e.g. Cancer, Diabetes, Hemophilia), drugs (e.g. steroids), or radiation.
3. Previous infections in your artificial joint.
4. Malnutrition or poor nutrition

The procedures that antibiotic prophylaxes include, but are not limited to:

1. Dental procedures:
  - a. Dental cleaning of teeth or implants where bleeding is anticipated
  - b. Dental extractions, periodontal (gum disease) procedures, Dental implant placement and reimplantation of teeth that were knocked out, Endodontic (root canal) instrumentation or surgery, Initial placement of orthodontic bands (not brackets), and Injection of a local anesthetic into the gums near the jaw
2. Patients who will have genito-urinary manipulations or instrumentation (cystoscopy, TURP, etc.), gastrointestinal or biliary surgery, or any gynecological procedures.
3. skin abscess (boil or furuncle) or infection that requires drainage

The following preventive antibiotics are suggested:

- If you can take oral medications and are not allergic to penicillin, 2 grams of Amoxicillin, Cephalexin, or Cephadrine should be taken one hour before the procedure.
- If you cannot take oral medications and are not allergic to penicillin, 2 grams of Ampicillin or 1 gram of Cefazolin should be administered by injection one hour before the procedure.
- If you are allergic to penicillin, 600 milligrams of Clindamycin should be taken orally or administered by injection one hour before the procedure.

If you suspect any infection, you should be seen promptly by your physician and treated