

Trauma and Orthopaedics

Post-operative wound care after joint surgery

Post-operative joint infection are one of the most serious complications of a joint replacement. Quick diagnosis and appropriate action can have a big impact on the outcome.

The signs and symptoms of normal wound healing include redness, bruising, swelling, stiffness and discomfort. These signs can also occur in the presence of infection.

Symptoms

If you have any of the following signs and symptoms, you could have an infection:

- increased warmth and redness around the wound
- wound discharge
- fevers, chills and night sweats
- increased pain or stiffness
- bruising and swelling
- fatigue



Patient Information

Contact us on 024 7696 8333 if:

- you are concerned about the appearance of your wound
- your wound is discharging
- your wound looks red or inflamed

Do not take antibiotics

Do not take antibiotics unless prescribed by the Orthopaedic team. Antibiotics may mask the joint infection temporarily, but they are unlikely to cure it. They will also reduce the success of any future treatments.

If you have any questions or worries, contact 024 7696 8333. Please leave a voice mail message on the number below for advice. We will organise any investigations and arrange an appointment.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this Information in another language or format, please contact **024 76 96 6009** and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smokefree policy.

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Document History

Department:	Trauma and Orthopaedics
Contact:	26009
Updated:	August 2024
Review:	August 2026
Version:	3
Reference:	HIC/LFT/2360/19