

Signs of Complications After Surgery

Why Is This Information Important?

After surgery, it is important to watch for signs and symptoms that may indicate a complication. Early recognition can help prevent serious problems.

When to Seek Medical Attention

- Fever higher than 38.3°C (100.9°F)
- Chills or shivering
- Severe pain not relieved by medication
- Redness, swelling, or warmth around the incision site
- Unusual or foul-smelling drainage from the wound
- Bleeding that will not stop
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Persistent nausea or vomiting
- Confusion or difficulty waking up
- No bowel movement or inability to urinate for more than 24 hours
- Leg pain, swelling, or redness

What To Do

- If you experience any of the signs above, contact your health care provider or go to the nearest emergency department immediately.
- Do not ignore symptoms that are new, severe, or worsening.

Contact Information

Health Care Provider: _____

Emergency Contact: _____