

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### When can I go back to work?

- Work status is determined by the injury or surgery performed.
- Work restrictions will be provided upon request. Your employer will determine if there is work available within the restrictions outlined. Your employer may decide temporary “off work” status if modified work duty is not available.
- In general, it is advised to remain off work for at least 24 hours following surgery.

### Can I Drive?

- Absolutely NO driving while taking narcotic pain medications.
- Upper Extremity Splint BELOW the elbow (wrist cock-up, thumb spica splint)
  - The Illinois Secretary of State allows driving while wearing an upper extremity splint below the elbow. Please use good judgment as to whether you can safely grip the steering wheel to avoid a motor vehicle accident.
- Upper Extremity Splint ABOVE the elbow (Muenster splint, Long Arm Cast)
  - Driving while wearing an upper extremity splint/cast above the elbow impairs your ability to drive. Therefore, driving is NOT allowed until the splint/cast has been discontinued.

### Can I receive a prescription refill?

- Narcotic medication requires a physician/physician assistant signature on watermarked prescription pad. Therefore, all additional prescriptions will require the patient to pick-up at the office.
- Do not call after hours or weekends for refill requests. The medical staff will not be available to process your request. The physician “on call” will not refill requests for pain medication. It is your responsibility to keep track of your pain medication. If the medication is running low and the weekend is approaching, please call the office at (815) 455-0800 during business hours. Any calls received after 2:00pm will be addressed on the next business day.

### Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)/Short-Term Disability Forms/Work Status Forms

- All forms need to be delivered to the office to be completed. Do NOT bring any forms to your surgery
- There is a required questionnaire and medical release form to fill out to allow the clinical staff to accurately complete the forms. Please allow at least 5-7 business days for the forms to be completed.