

## Mr Raymond Yap

MBBS, BMedSci, MSurgEd, FRACS, FCSSANZ  
Colorectal and General Surgeon  
Laparoscopy, Robotics, TEMS/TAMIS, taTME  
Open Access Colonoscopy & Gastroscopy  
Colorectal Cancer, Diverticulitis, IBD  
Haemorrhoids & Anorectal Disease

## CR Surgery Clinic

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### After Surgery Instructions

You have had your surgery. Mr Yap has talked to your contact person. Any special instructions has been given to you or them. *A responsible adult must take you home. Do not drive or operate machinery for the rest of the day of surgery.*

#### Diet & Activity

- There are no particular limits on your diet apart from eating healthily.
- If you live alone, make arrangements with family or friends in advance to stay and help you.
- Do not drive for the first week, do not go alone the first time and do not go far. Do not drive if you are still on strong painkillers.

#### Pain and Medications

- **Over the counter pain medications** – Take 1000mg of paracetamol every 6 hours, up to 4 times a day. You can add 400mg of ibuprofen to this, up to 3 times a day – they do not interact.
- **Narcotic pain relief** – If you still have severe pain, use the prescribed tablets every 4-6 hours. *Narcotics can cause constipation but this can be managed by taking laxatives as well.*
- **Stool softeners** – Take a Movicol sachet, once a day if you are on strong painkillers. No prescription is required.

#### Smoking & Alcohol

- **Do not smoke:** If you have been smoking, **stop**. Smoking interferes with healing and increases your risk of complications including infection, hernias, pneumonia, chronic lung disease such as emphysema and lung

failure, and cancer. If you need help quitting, talk to your GP.

- **Avoid** alcohol in the first two weeks after surgery. Once you are not taking pain relief, drink no more than one standard alcoholic drink a day.

#### Wound Care

- Keep wounds clean and dry. **Please take the dressing off 5 days after your operation.** Leave the wound uncovered unless there is discharge – if so, place plain dry gauze over the wound to absorb this. Do not wear a belt or tight pants against the wound.
- Please bathe everyday. Do not submerge your incision for 2 weeks. If you have a dressing, it can go in the shower and pat dry afterwards.

#### Things to Watch For

- Heavy wound bleeding or discharge.
- New pain, fevers, feeling faint, nausea or vomiting.

#### Follow up

- A follow-up appointment has usually been made for you – see below. If not, please call for a follow up appointment in 4 weeks.
- If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Mr Yap or the rooms.
- If you cannot reach your surgeon or you need immediate attention, please go to your nearest emergency room.

**REVIEW CONSULTATION: Date .....** **TIME:.....**

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