

## **After Your Fingertip Injury Procedure**

### **Dr. Paul Nielsen**

#### Dressings and Wound Care

- After surgery you will have a bulky dressing on your finger to protect it
- Keep your dressing on until your follow up appointment
- Call our office at 308-865-2570 if you are concerned about your dressing

#### Medications

- NSAIDs such as ibuprofen or naproxen are recommended to help with pain if you are allowed to take them
- You will be prescribed a strong pain medication, such as hydrocodone, in case you need them for a few days after surgery
  - You are allowed to drive when you are not taking prescription pain medication
- If you are prescribed an antibiotic, you should take the entire prescription even if you are feeling better

#### Activity

- Elevate your hand above your elbow and heart for the first few days after surgery
- You may gently move your finger in the dressing after surgery

#### Follow-Up Care

- You will have an appointment in clinic within the next few days
  - You will receive dressing supplies and a protecting splint from hand therapy
- Another follow up is typically 10-14 days after surgery to remove sutures

#### Results

- Soreness at the fingertip is common for several months
- If your nailbed was repaired, it may take months to grow back and become more normal