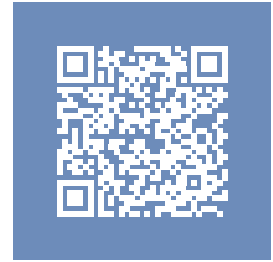


Wound Care After Joint Replacement

Proper wound care after your hip or knee replacement is an important part of a safe recovery. Most wounds heal uneventfully with the Hypafix dressing applied in hospital. This guide explains how to look after your wound at home, what is normal, and what requires urgent attention.



KEY STEPS

01 Keep it Covered

Leave Hypafix in place until it begins to lift naturally or for 2 weeks.

02 Showering

Shower normally; pat dry with a clean towel. Do not rub or soak the wound.

03 Inspect Regularly

Check daily for redness, discharge, warmth, or wound separation.

04 No Submersion

No baths, swimming, or hydrotherapy until 4 weeks post-operatively.

QUICK FACTS

DRESSING

Hypafix

WATERPROOF

Yes

SWIMMING

4 Weeks Post-Op

CONCERN

Contact Rooms

**"A well-healed wound
is the first sign of a great recovery."**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. My wound is a little red around the edges — is that normal?

Mild redness within a few millimetres of the wound edges can be normal in the first 1–2 weeks. Spreading redness, warmth, or discharge should be reviewed promptly.

Q. What if my dressing falls off early?

Apply a fresh Hypafix dressing — or a clean non-stick dressing if Hypafix is unavailable — and contact our rooms for further guidance.

Q. When is the wound fully healed?

The surface wound seals within 2 weeks. Internal healing continues for up to 12 months, though the scar matures over 12–18 months.

ABOUT THE SURGEON

Dr Chien-Wen Liew exclusively performs total hip replacements via the direct anterior approach and total knee replacements via kinematic alignment only. He utilises patient-specific technology for both procedures, and practices from Orthopaedics 360 — within the Eastwood Private Hospital Precinct.

Dr Chien-Wen Liew

Hip and Knee Replacement Surgeon

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