



Thomas Obermeyer, M.D.



obermeyermd.com

O: 847-285-4318

F: 847-885-0130



BARRINGTON
Orthopedic Specialists
Specializing in You

DENTAL WORK AFTER JOINT REPLACEMENT

During dental procedures, bacteria that are normally found in your mouth can enter the blood stream. Your immune system is normally able to clear these bacteria without you knowing it. If you have a joint replacement, it is possible (yet unlikely) these bacteria can settle in your replaced joint and cause an infection. To prevent this problem, all patients with a replaced joint should take antibiotics by mouth prior to procedures including:

- Dental cleanings
- Dental extractions
- Periodontal procedures
- Dental implants
- Root canals
- Placement of orthodontics

Other miscellaneous procedures listed below also carry a small risk of seeding bacteria in the blood stream:

- Colonoscopy
- Tonsillectomy
- Bronchoscopy
- Biopsies
- Genitourinary cystoscopy
- Any invasive surgery

For the first three months after surgery, Dr. Obermeyer generally recommends that these procedures be avoided. *For the first two years after surgery*, these procedures can be performed, but Dr. Obermeyer recommends that antibiotics listed below be taken first. For patients who are at a high risk, antibiotics should be taken before these procedures forever. High risk patients include those with a history of joint replacement infections, those with inflammatory arthritis, those with diabetes, and those with suppressed immune systems.

Antibiotics:

Oral: 2 grams Amoxicillin, Cephalexin, or Ampicillin one hour before procedure
Intravenously: 2 grams Cefazolin

If penicillin or cephalosporin allergy: oral or intravenous 600 milligrams of Clindamycin one hour before procedure. Whomever is performing the procedure should prescribe the appropriate antibiotic. You may also contact Dr. Obermeyer's office to obtain the antibiotic at (847)285-4318.