

## Common Concerns after Hip Resurfacing

### 1. **Fever**

Most patients run a fever at first after hip resurfacing. We think this is from the release of cytokines (pyrogens) from drilling into the femur. Rarely is the fever a sign of infection or other serious complication. The usual pattern is for the temperature to rise later in the day or evening. The fever goes away within a few days.

### 2. **Swelling**

Most patients have significant thigh swelling after hip resurfacing. This is from dislocation the hip and often is a major inconvenience. It does not come on immediately following surgery but usually within the first several days and may actually increase once you have left the hospital and returned home. *Do not take anti-inflammatory medications while you are on the postoperative anti-coagulants.* The swelling is normal with the procedure and not a sign of a blood clot or infection. Ice, massage and elevation seem to help.

### 3. **Wound Drainage**

There often is drainage from the incision. At first this is blood but later it is just the serum, which is more yellow. Sometimes this occurs several days following surgery. If there is significant redness with this we should examine the incision for the possibility of infection although this is rare.

### 4. **Muscle Spasm**

Many patients are surprised that the major muscle pain is not in incisional area but rather in the thigh. This can be a major inconvenience but does gradually subside. Exercise, massage and ice can all help.