To Our Dental Colleagues,

The Logan Health Orthopedics Total Joint Program strives to follow evidence-based best practices regarding the management of our total joint patients. Dr. Joseph Bergman, Dr. Timothy Joyce, and Dr. Stephen Gregorius, fellowship trained total joint surgeons with Logan Health, have again reviewed the statements from the AAOS, AAHKS, ADA, current literature, and surveyed tertiary center current practices and wish to update our recommendations as follows:

- We encourage patients to be seen for dental clearance prior to elective total joint replacement
- All necessary dental procedures should be completed at least 2-3 weeks prior to scheduled surgery. We will delay surgery if the dental procedure is too close to the date of surgery.
- No elective dental procedures should be performed for 90 days following total joint surgery
- If emergent dental work is needed within 90 days, perform the required procedure but provide prophylactic antibiotics ahead of time.
- After 90 days, no further prophylaxis is required unless they meet one of the following criteria:
 - o Immune compromised (anti-rheumatoid drugs, chemotherapy, organ transplant, AIDs)
 - o Diabetics with Hemoglobin A1c >7
 - Prior history of total joint infection
 - o Prior history of total joint revision

The patient will be provided written documentation of their physician's recommendation via the updated dental prophylaxis Recommendation form (see attached) around the time of their surgery.

Antibiotic Recommendations are unchanged.

- Regimen: Single Dose 30-60 minutes before dental procedure
 - If not allergic to penicillin:
 - Amoxicillin 2gm
 - o If allergic to penicillin or ampicillin, prescribe one of the following:
 - Cephalexin 2gm
 - Azithromycin 500mg
 - Clarithromycin 500mg

The above protocol provides a guideline to help providers make decisions regarding dental prophylaxis, but it is up to the individual surgeon to decide what is best for each patient. Our goal is to provide updated communication with our dental colleagues, and to revisit this topic as new clinical data becomes available. Please call our offices with any questions.

Sincerely,

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