TRANSURETHRAL RESECTION OF PROSTATE (TURP) 
POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

What to Expect
• You will stay at least one night (usually two) in the hospital depending upon your health status and bleeding.
• You will have a Foley catheter in place to drain urine from your bladder. This will usually be removed prior to
leaving hospital.
• Pain/discomfort after surgery is normal and will decrease over time.
• After catheter is removed it is common to experience frequency of urination and/or urgency and intermittent
blood in the urine for 2-4 weeks

Activity
• No lifting greater than 10 lbs for 2 weeks.
• No driving for 2 weeks; limit long car rides.
• Avoid strenuous activity or exercise for 4-6 weeks.
• You may return to work usually after 2 weeks, unless your job involves heavy lifting or strenuous activity.
• Do not have sexual intercourse for 4 weeks.
• Rest and decreased activity will speed your recovery.
• Resume taking regular medications, but do not take blood-thinners such as Aspirin, Coumadin, or Plavix until
discussed with your doctor.

Diet and Elimination
• Drink 8-10 glasses of fluid daily to keep urine clear and flowing freely.
• Return to normal diet, but avoid caffeine, alcohol, and acidic foods which may irritate the urethra.
• Use a mild laxative as needed to avoid straining with bowel movements.

Call our office if:
• Fever over 101.5 F.
• Heavy bleeding or clots persisting longer than 24 hours with increased fluid intake.
• Catheter is not draining (be sure tubing is not kinked).
• Inability to urinate
• Severe pain or burning with urination that is not improving.