Antibiotic Cover Following Joint Replacement Surgery

There is a small risk of infection forever more following your joint replacement. It is felt that invasive or dirty procedures such as having a catheter placed in the bladder, dental surgery or colonoscopy surgery will put your joint replacement at an increased risk of infection, especially within the first 2 years.

It is recommended that any invasive procedure performed within 2 years of a joint replacement should have appropriate antibiotics given prior to that procedure.

This should continue forever with patients who are immuno-compromised or have significant other medical problems.

**If you suffer from:**

- rheumatoid arthritis
- systemic lupus
- drug induced immuno-suppression
- previous joint infection
- mal-nourishment
- Type 1 diabetes
- cancer

Then the need for antibiotics should be raised with the doctor or dentist who is involved at the time.

*If you have any concerns you should contact Dr Steve Lawrie beforehand and he will advise whether antibiotics are necessary.*