



PATIENT Information – Post Operative Arthroscopy / ACL Surgery – Dr Lawrie

DVT / BLOOD CLOTS FOLLOWING SURGERY

- A DVT (deep vein thrombosis) commonly known as a blood clot can occur after any surgery. Along with you and your family's previous history of blood clots and/or the more complex and lengthy the surgery is, the more likely a blood clot may form. This risk increases with major surgery, smoking, obesity and circulation problems especially of the veins and prolonged periods of immobility.
- You may be prescribed medicine to prevent a blood clot. This is not infallible.
- If a blood clot / DVT forms there is a small risk the clot can become large and break off and travel to the lungs causing chest pain, shortness of breath, and very rarely even death.
- If after your surgery you develop pain or swelling in the calf or thigh, chest pain or chest tightness, pain remote to the operation site, please contact Dr Lawrie, your GP or local emergency department. An ultrasound of your leg maybe ordered to make sure there is no blood clot. If a clot is present treatment can be started to prevent the clot becoming a problem.

- Please contact Nambour General Hospital Emergency Department if you are unable to contact anyone after hours: 07 5470 6688