

HYPOCALCEMIA - LOW CALCIUM TOTAL THYROIDECTOMY

WHAT IS HYPOCALCEMIA?

- Low levels of calcium in the blood
- Signs and symptom of low calcium usually won't occur for 24 – 48 hours post operatively

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- ★ Numbness in fingers or toes
- ★ Tingling around the mouth
- ★ Muscle Spasm
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Irritability
- Inability to concentrate
- Confusion
- Muscle stiffness
- Difficulty swallowing
- Difficulty speaking
- Fatigue or weakness
- Dizziness
- Papilledema
- Low blood pressure
- Seizure

MEDICATIONS

- No Calcium necessary, watch for signs and symptoms of low calcium
- Calcium Citrate plus Vitamin D (315mg/250 units) take 2 tablets every 4 hours and watch for signs and symptoms of low calcium
- Calcium Citrate plus Vitamin D (315mg/250 units) take 2 tablets every 4 hours and Rocaltrol (Calcitriol) every 12 hours and watch for signs and symptoms of low calcium

Call your doctor with ANY symptoms of low calcium: Phone # (843) 766-7103. If you need immediate attention go to the nearest Emergency Department.

I have read, been read, and verbally repeated back instructions and understand them. A copy has been given to me.

Date of Follow-up visit _____ Time _____

Patient / Responsible Party

Nurse Signature

