5th Metatarsal Fractures POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS Michael F Shepard M.D. (714) 634-4567

1. <u>First Post – Operative Day</u>

- A. Continue ice pack every one to two hours while awake.
- **B.** Pain medication as needed.

2. <u>Second Post – Operative Day Until Return Visit</u>

- A. Continue ice pack as needed.
- **B.** Wear your splint at all times. Place a plastic bag over the splint for showers.
- C. You may not place any weight on your operated extremity. Use your crutches for movement and balance. You will walk with the brace locked in extension for about 4 weeks.
- **D.** You must wear your brace at all times.

NO WEIGHT BEARING ON THE OPERATED SIDE

- 3. <u>Suture Removal</u>
 - A. Your sutures need to be removed 7-10 days from surgery at your first post op visit. Rehab should start after your first visit.

For Return Appointments

- 4. Your 1st post-op visit will need to be scheduled for 10-14 days after surgery.
- 5. If you have any problems or questions please call our office at (714) 634-4567. If you have a problem after hours the answering service will contact Dr. Shepard.
- 6. Any activity that requires precise thinking and accuracy must be avoided for the first twelve hours after surgery and while taking pain medication, which includes operating machinery and/or driving a vehicle.