Open Lumbar Fusion Pathway

	Day of Surgery I will:	First Day after Surgery I will:	Second Day after Surgery/Day of Discharge I will:
Post-Operative Surgical Care	 Use the incentive spirometer every hour I am awake taking in 10 breaths each time. Do ankle pumps after I use my incentive spirometer. Put ice on my incision as needed. 	 Sit in the chair for all meals. Use the incentive spirometer every hour I am awake taking in 10 breaths each time. Do ankle pumps after I use my incentive spirometer. Put ice on my incision as needed. 	
Activity with Physical Therapy and Nursing	 Get help from staff to walk from door to bed or chair after surgery. Walk short distances with from nurse or Physical Therapy. Avoid bending, lifting, twisting (BLT) as instructed by my doctor. 	 Participate with Physical Therapy. Walk with help and use a walker if needed. I may wear my clothes from home if I want. Get out of bed or up to the chair with help. Review Spine Camp video in my room if needed. 	 Continue exercises and increase walking. Practice skills needed for home such as stairs, log rolling and car transfers. Graduate from Physical Therapy.
Diet	• Start with light foods. If I am tolerating these foods, I will change to my usual diet.	• Eat my usual diet. Include fresh fruits and vegetables, and foods made from whole grains to help prevent constipation. Drink plenty of fluids. Set a goal of 6 to 8 cups per day.	
Medicines	 Restart home medicines. My nurse will give these to me. I may receive antibiotics through my IV. Begin taking pain medicines from nurses. 	 Continue home medicines given to me by my nurses. Start to manage my pain with oral pain pills. Start to use an oral stool softener. 	Discuss which medications I will continue when I leave the hospital.
IV (Intravenous Line)	Have an IV for fluids.	• Have my IV fluids stopped. The IV may remain in place if needed for medicines.	Have my IV removed.
Bathroom	I will ask for help to walk to the bathroom.	 I will ask for help to walk to the bathroom. Be aware that pain medicines may cause constipation and will take stool softeners as needed. 	Be walking to the bathroom.
Bandage and Surgical Drain	Have a bandage over my incision(s). I <u>may</u> have a tube to drain fluid from my surgery site.		Have my bandage and drain removed. I may have a new bandage applied.
Discharge Planning	 Meet with a Case Manager to discuss discharge needs, including equipment, medicines, and possible physical therapy needs. 		Plan to have someone take me home when I am discharged.



Patient and Family Activity Tracker Second Day After Surgery / Day of Discharge **Day of Surgery First Day After Surgery** Up to chair for meals Walk from door to bed or chair with Up to chair for meals help Walks Walks Walk (Short distances with nurse or PT) **Incentive Spirometer (every hour) Incentive Spirometer (every hour) Incentive Spirometer (every hour) Ankle Pumps Ankle Pumps Ankle Pumps**

