



## Rubber Band Hemorrhoid Ligation:

You just had a rubber band or bands applied to you internal hemorrhoids. Here are a few things to be aware of:

### **Pain**

Some discomfort after banding is common (many patients report feeling pressure). That's why only 1 band is applied during the first application. If you tolerate the first banding, often 2 bands can be applied during a subsequent visit.

If you feel an unremitting sharp pain after the banding, then the band may be removed in the first day or so.

### **Bleeding**

Some bleeding normally occur at the first bowel movement after the procedure. However, severe bleeding which requires hospitalization and blood transfusion is very rare and occurs at a rate of less than 1%.

When the hemorrhoid shrivels and falls off about a week after the procedure, some bleeding is to be expected. If the bleeding does not stop by itself, however, local pressure, local application of adrenaline or stitching may be necessary.

If you sit on the toilet and feel that you filled it with blood on several occasions in short succession, you should call the office immediately for advice.

### **Severe infection**

Although rare, complications involving post-treatment infection and sepsis are very serious and can be life-threatening.

Infection is typically preceded with symptoms of pain, fever, and inability to urinate. If in the first 48 hours after banding you experience a fever over 101 F or are unable to urinate, please call the office immediately.

### **Blood clot**

In about 5% of patients, a painful blood clot can develop. This is called a hemorrhoidal thrombosis. If this is extremely painful, please call the office. In some circumstances, it may be appropriate to remove the involved hemorrhoid or blood clot in the office.