

1912 Charlotte Avenue Nashville, TN 37203

## PAIN CONTROL

## What is pain control?

Pain control is a major priority for you, your doctor and our staff. While it is likely you will have some pain following surgery or while battling an illness, it certainly doesn't have to be unbearable.

We will measure your pain preoperatively and postoperatively and do everything we can to help you stay ahead of your pain.

## Why is pain control important?

Pain control can help you recover more quickly. By staying ahead of your pain, you need less medication and will have fewer side effects.

## How are we working to control your pain?

We care deeply about you and your recovery. Dr Downs and his staff treat hundreds of patients each year and our goal is for you to be as comfortable as possible while healing takes place.

- Medications given during surgery will wear off. In some cases, a nerve block will be used to control pain, but will wear off in 12-18 hours. It is important to stay ahead of your pain.
- Your Pre-op and Post-op nurse will ask you to rate your pain on a 0-10 scale, with 10 being severe pain.
  Reporting your pain as a number helps the doctors and nurses know how well your treatment is working and whether to make changes. They may offer descriptive words, such as aching, throbbing, burning or stabbing, to help you describe your pain level.

