

## SURGERY SCHEDULING PROCESS: NEXT STEPS



Date:

Dr. Thon has recommended surgery or specialty injections (Hyaluronic Acid/Platelet-Rich-Plasma) for your treatment. This **requires** authorization from your insurance company. This document explains what happens next and what to expect.

## **The Authorization Process**

- 1. Dr. Thon will submit your surgery orders through his private office, Orthopedic Centers of Colorado.
- 2. Orthopedic Centers of Colorado will then send these orders to your workers compensation insurance company for authorization.
- 3. Important: The insurance authorization process typically takes 3-4 weeks, sometimes longer. We cannot schedule your surgery until we receive this authorization.

## What You Need to Do

- If you haven't heard anything **after 4 weeks**, please contact Teresa O'Bannon, Dr. Thon's surgery scheduler, at Orthopedic Centers of Colorado.
- If Dr. Thon requested medical clearance from your primary care physician (PCP) or another specialist (cardiologist, pulmonologist, nephrologist, etc...), you <u>MUST</u> complete this **before** surgery can be scheduled. We need <u>written</u> clearance from that doctor.
- For patients with diabetes: Your A1C level **must be below 8.0** PRIOR to surgery to be scheduled, there are no exceptions.

We understand waiting can be difficult, but each step is necessary to ensure your procedure is properly authorized and safe. We cannot schedule any surgery until:

- 1. We have insurance authorization
- 2. Any required medical clearances are received
- 3. All medical requirements (such as A1C levels) are met

If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to our surgery scheduler, Teresa O'Bannon at <u>Teresa.o'bannon@occ-ortho.com</u>, she will be your main point of contact during the authorization process.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

-Dr. Stephen Thon Orthopedic Centers of Colorado

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