# Questions and Answers About PROs

# What are PROs?

PRO, which stands for Patient-Reported Outcome, refers to a patient-focused resource for care providers in which patients' self-reported experiences are documented to improve treatment outcomes. We use a web-based software that allows Olympia Orthopaedic Associates' care team to offer you a quicker and more efficient way to report on your experience: electronically.

#### Your Information

It is important that YOU describe your current injury or condition to our care team. We collect this information in the form of questionnaires. From your first appointment through your treatment and recovery, the answers you provide to these questionnaires will give your doctor or other orthopaedic providers the information they need to improve your care.

## **Collected Electronically**

Olympia Orthopaedic Associates collects the data through emailed questionnaires. These questionnaires will be assigned to you by your doctor. If you provide your email address to any one of our patient service representatives, you can complete them in the privacy of your own home one week before your scheduled appointment.

## **Throughout Your Care**

If you are scheduled for surgery, you will receive a series of questionnaires throughout your recovery as part of the clinical outcomes portion.

# Questions or comments? Please call (360) 709-6230 to speak with a member of our staff.

Westside Clinic 3901 Capital Mall Drive SW Olympia, WA 98502

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# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Why is it important to complete these questionnaires?

Patients who complete their questionnaires not only improve their own care by providing their doctor with the information he or she needs, but they also provide invaluable data, which helps us all.

#### Will my information remain confidential?

Yes, Olympia Orthopaedic Associates is HIPAA compliant, and your data is encrypted once it is entered into our system.

#### How can I complete the questionnaires if I don't have a home computer or an email address?

Please arrive 20 to 30 minutes prior to your appointment and we will provide an iPad (a small, wireless computer) for you to answer the questionnaires assigned by your doctor.

#### Why are the same questions repeated on multiple questionnaires?

Although this may seem repetitive, each completed questionnaire provides a different score for a unique reason related to your health or condition. We decrease the repetitive questions whenever possible.

#### Are the questionnaires considered research?

The questionnaires assigned by your doctor are NOT considered research. It becomes research if you consent to using your answers for research purposes, or if you consent to being enrolled into a clinical trial that uses our system to collect the study data.

#### Why am I being asked to complete the same questionnaires I did at my last appointment?

Each follow-up appointment marks a different point of time in your recovery. Although questions are the same, your answers may be very different because time has passed since you began your treatment or surgery. These repeated questions allow your doctor to better determine how well he or she is taking care of you and how well you are progressing in your recovery.

#### How will my answers to these questions be used?

Olympia Orthopaedic Associates will use this outcome data to improve our practice and your treatment plan through evidence-based research.

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