

6 Months Post-Op

I am now 6 months post-op, and I thought I would be writing this entry with a greater extent of good news than I am. Symptomatically I am doing fabulous. The tremors I used to have in my arms are fairly non-existent. My grip is great, as previously stated my pain levels are doing incredibly well 95% of the time. The highest painkiller I have taken in months is Paracetamol, perhaps one co-codamol at a major push, but other than that, I am relatively medication free. My shoulders are still temperamental but it is rare that the residual pain travels into my neck like it used to.

When my post-op follow up informed me the fusion was not yet complete, I was quite taken aback. To my understanding, because they put in a microplate, they put in less graft material than they usually would because of the limited space. As such, the fusion will take longer, 6-9 months longer to be exact. Perplexed is an understatement of how I felt. Why they never told me that before they discharged me from hospital or at 3 months post-op is beyond me.

The good news is that because of the improvement to my pre-surgical symptoms so far, they now anticipate continued improvement and that my shoulder pain should eventually recede to. It might be taking its time, but it seems very positive in reflection.

To my greater amusement, the new x-rays were amazing too! I don't know how he could even tell it had begun fusing, though he commented it was 'satisfactory' and tried to explain he knew it was because of some line going through the bracket, but I could see it. The front view is something I had not previously seen so I thought that was very interesting. My medical imagery never ceases to amaze me, love it!

6 months post-op and I can definitely say that surgery was the best decision ever, I am so glad I had it.