



*Resume Active Life*

## **MEDICAL FRAUD WARNING –Nationwide Brace Scam/Scam Phone Call Alert**

Please be advised that various organizations are contacting individuals by phone or mail offering them back braces and/or knee braces or other types of brace and claiming these braces are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or other insurance programs. These individuals are not associated with Tower Orthopedic and Joint Replacement and have never been provided with any of our patients' information. If one of our providers recommend that a brace is medically necessary, they will discuss this with you in person during one of your appointments, not on the phone or by mail. And we will never ask a third party to call you to discuss these braces.

There is also another scam where the caller identifies themselves as calling from a medical practice, such as Tower Orthopedic and Joint Replacement, to ask for verification of your personal information, i.e., your address, in an attempt to steal your identity. Never give out your Medicare card number, Social Security number, birth date, address, bank account info, or credit card number to an unknown party. Feel free to hang up and call our office to verify that we tried to call you.

Tower Orthopedic and Joint Replacement takes these matters very seriously. By making you aware of this, we hope this will help keep patients from falling victim to these scams. If you receive a phone call or a post card in the mail from anyone claiming to be from our office and it appears to be suspicious, please call our office at (907) 222-2924.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is also very aware of these scams and we recommend reporting instances of fraud to them at:

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/report-fraud>

as well as to the Better Business Bureau's Scam Tracker at:

<https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker/us>