

Admissions & Surgery

Several Weeks Before Your Surgery

- Schedule your surgery date through your provider.
- Arrange for someone get you to and from the facility.
- Schedule required pre-surgical tests (lab work, X-rays).
- Pre-register for your hospital stay with the admissions department; call 608-324-1293 for an appointment.
- Meet with your anesthesiologist and pre-op nurse to create a care plan specific to your needs.
- Contact your insurance company to request an estimate of benefits and payment.
- Contact patient accounts at 608-324-1259 if you do not have insurance or have questions about billing.

Note: You will need to complete these steps prior to the day of surgery or your surgery will be delayed.

Day Before Your Surgery

- A nurse will call you the day before your surgery to confirm your scheduled surgery time and arrival time at the hospital. If your surgery is scheduled on a Monday, you will be contacted the Friday before.
- If you develop a cold, fever, cough or other illness within 48 hours of your surgery, notify your provider.
- Your provider will give you directions regarding eating, drinking and medications.
- Do not smoke after midnight the night before your surgery.
- Bathe/shower the night before/morning of your surgery.

What to Bring

- Insurance ID and drug insurance card(s).
- Medicare or Medicaid ID card.
- List of current medications.
- Check or credit card to pay for services or prescriptions not covered by insurance.
- Sleepwear, bathrobe, slippers.
- Personal grooming items.
- Containers for contact lenses or eyeglasses.

Day of Your Surgery

- Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing that can easily be removed and will not irritate your surgical area.
- Do not wear makeup, nail polish or jewelry.
- Leave valuables, cash or extra credit cards at home.
- Enter the hospital at the front entrance; tell the receptionist that you are scheduled for surgery. You will be escorted to your destination.

Before Your Surgery

Staff will ask you to sign an informed consent form. Read it carefully. It lists your name, kind of surgery you will have, that you spoke to your doctor about the surgery and asked questions, and that you've agreed to have the surgery.

For your safety, staff may ask you these same questions many times. They will also double-check your records.

A healthcare professional will mark the spot on your body to be operated on. Make sure they mark the correct spot and nowhere else. This helps avoid mistakes.

Sometimes you cannot be awake for the marking. If this happens, a family member or friend or another healthcare worker can watch the marking to make sure that the correct body part is marked.

Ask the surgeon if they will take "time out" before the surgery to make sure they are doing the right surgery, on the right body part on the right person.

During Surgery

While you are in surgery your family or friends will be in a waiting room. This allows the surgeon to easily provide an update and notify them when your surgery is complete.

Going Home

Upon approval for discharge, you will receive specific instructions for your aftercare and recovery. These will include questions about your pain and instructions about medications. This also gives you time to ask any questions regarding your recovery, including exercise, food, and returning to work.

Inpatients: If you have any questions about your surgery or aftercare, please contact your provider.

Outpatients: You must have an adult drive you home from the hospital following surgery. You are also encouraged to have someone stay with you during the first 24 hours after your surgery.

If you have questions about your aftercare, please contact ambulatory care at 608-324-1577.

Patient Name: _____

Date of Surgery: _____

Time to Arrive at Hospital: _____