



## SPECIALTY SURGERY CENTER

The Staff at Specialty Surgery Center (SSC) want to ensure that your experience with us is as comfortable as possible. Your surgical journey starts at your doctor's office when your doctor discusses your treatment plan with you. You should be informed of your diagnosis, treatment plan, alternatives to the plan, and risks and benefits of the treatment recommended to you. The surgical secretary will then send us the necessary information to schedule your procedure.

Depending on the type of surgery, you may need to have lab work, x-rays, or EKG done. Any of these studies will be ordered by your surgeon prior to the day of your surgery.

A preadmission nurse from SSC will contact you prior to your procedure to take your history which will include your current medications with dosages, and answer whatever questions you may have.

- Children's procedures are usually performed before adult procedures.
- For children, please bring their favorite toy/blanket, empty bottle, sippy cup, extra set of clothing, diapers.
- Do not take aspirin or ibuprofen products (Advil, Motrin) for 2 weeks prior to and after surgery.
- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight. This includes candy, water, coffee, chewing gums, mints, etc. If you eat or drink anything your surgery could be cancelled, delayed or rescheduled. The above guidelines are for general anesthesia cases. However, even if you are scheduled for local anesthesia, a change could occur. Therefore, these guidelines should be followed unless directed otherwise by your surgeon or the surgery center staff.
- Take your blood pressure, heart medications with a small sip of water.
- Wear comfortable clothing.
- Do not bring valuables or jewelry with you.

- Limit number of visitors. Only two visitors will be allowed in the recovery area..
- Because you are coming into a hospital environment, you may need a light sweater or jacket.
- Pediatric patients must be accompanied by legal parent/guardian who must remain in the waiting room during the surgical procedure. Without proper legal documentation, a guardian cannot sign the permit and the surgery cannot be done.
- Adult patients must be accompanied by a responsible adult who can drive you home and stay with you.
- Bring a list of your medications and dosages with you.
- Bring a list of emergency contacts and their phone numbers.
- Leave dentures in place.
- Please notify your doctor if you have had a change in you health, are sick, running a fever, or have open wounds or sores.

On the day of your surgery, you will be greeted by the receptionist and asked to confirm your demographic information. You will sign a form that will give SSC the right to release information necessary to be able to bill and receive payment from your insurance company. If there is a deductible or co-payment due, you will be asked for that payment. A copy of your insurance card will be made.

The clinical staff at SSC, include professional, experienced nurses and surgical technicians who are dedicated in taking special care of our patients and the patient's family.

The admitting process is done by a nurse who will ask that you sign an operative consent, review your medical/surgical history, confirm medications taken, and help you with proper attire. A parent/legal guardian must accompany their child through the admission process and can wait with them until it is time for the patient to go into the operating room. Patient's vital signs will be taken. Depending on the type of procedure and the age of the child, the anesthesiologist may order sedative medication to be given preoperatively. IVs are started on young children in the operating room after they are asleep. Older children and adults will have IVs started preoperatively. Through the IV, medications can be given to make the patient drowsy and comfortable. The IV is also used by the anesthesiologist to give the anesthetic in the operating room. While you are in the operating room, monitors are used to measure your vital signs. The same type of monitoring will be done in the

recovery area. When the surgical procedure is completed, the surgeon will talk with the family, while the anesthesiologist and the operating room nurse accompany the patient to the recovery area.

The initial phase of recovery for general anesthesia can take up to an hour. When the patient is fully awake, the patient is then moved into the second phase of recovery where the family may accompany the patient. The second phase of recovery prepares the patient and family member(s) for discharge.

For patients receiving local anesthesia with IV sedation, the recovery phase is usually much quicker. Discharge will occur within 15-20 minutes after the completion of the surgery.

The recovery room nurse will go over written discharge instructions that are specific for the procedure performed and you will be given a copy. Prescriptions will be given to you if necessary by your physician.

Because of the nature of the health care, there will be times when emergencies arise that may cause delays. There can be unexpected cancellations and potentially longer waiting periods. We will try to keep you informed if changes occur.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us.

Our billing/insurance clerks will verify your insurance information and then notify you by telephone if there will be any deductible or co-payment that will need to be paid to SSC. The surgeon fee and the anesthesiologist fee are separate from SSC fee.

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