WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT WHEN I ARRIVE ON THE DAY OF SURGERY?

On the day of your surgery, you should arrive at the time designated by your physician to allow for admitting, pre-operative preparation, and adjustments to the surgery schedule. Doors open M-F at 5 a.m. and Sat at 6 a.m. Parking is conveniently located near UMC’s Main Entrance and near the Ambulatory Surgery Center. A parking permit is given during your Pre-Registration.

Upon arrival, go to the Reception Desk and sign in with our staff. You may need to sign forms necessary to finalize the arrangements for your procedure and pay required insurance co-pays.

A nurse will escort you to the pre-operative patient care area, where you may have a family member or friend remain with you.

Parents are required to remain with their child pre-operatively and at least one parent is required to remain in the Waiting Area during your child’s procedure.

Your nurse will complete a health assessment and initiate intravenous access for medications and fluids. Female patients of child-bearing age will be asked to provide a urine sample for pregnancy testing.

The anesthesiologist will consult with you about his plan for anesthesia and the perioperative nurse will verify that you are ready for your surgical procedure.

For your safety you may be asked to sign consent forms and verify the location of your surgery with multiple caregivers.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY SURGERY IS COMPLETED?

You will be transported to our fully-equipped Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), where you will remain under the close observation of our Critical Care Registered Nurses through your recovery phase.

The physician will come out to the waiting area and speak with your family member(s). When your condition allows, the nurse will notify your family or friends of your condition and may invite one person or both parents to join you at the bedside in the Recovery Area.

Although the length of stay in the PACU varies depending upon the procedure performed, the type of anesthesia administered, and your surgeon’s instructions, most patients are discharged 1½ -2 hours after surgery. It is at this time that the nurse will review postoperative home care instructions such as diet, activity, dressings, bathing/showering, medications, pain, and follow-up appointments with you and your family member or friend.

At discharge, you will be escorted to the west exit door and your care transferred to a responsible adult.

A follow-up courtesy phone call may be placed 1 to 3 days following your surgery.

DO NOT:

- Drive or operate equipment
- Make significant decisions
- Drink alcohol or take over-the-counter or herbal medications without your physician’s knowledge
**WELCOME TO UMC’S AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER**

We’re pleased that you and your surgeon made the decision to utilize our facility for your surgical procedure.

Our Ambulatory Surgery Center offers a full range of surgical services, including both diagnostic and interventional procedures.

Our professional staff of Registered Nurses, Surgical Technologists, and ancillary staff provide the highest level of surgical care before, during, and after surgery.

**PRE-REGISTRATION**

You **must** pre-register 1-5 days prior to your scheduled procedure. Pre-registration can be done on a walk-in basis, Mon-Fri from 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in Admitting, just inside the UMC Main Entrance located on Shadow Lane and Charleston Blvd. Pre-admission testing may take 1-4 hours, so please plan accordingly.

**Please bring:**
1. Written orders or instructions from your physician.
2. Driver’s License
3. Insurance, Medicare/Medicaid cards
4. Method of Payment for insurance co-pays which will be collected during pre-registration.
5. Any legal documents such as Power of Attorney for Healthcare or Legal Guardianship papers that will be necessary to verify your ability to consent for another individual.
6. List of medications with dose and frequency taken
7. Pacemaker /other implanted device cards

If your physician ordered pre-operative testing at another facility, please bring the results with you or have them faxed to (702) 383-3620 prior to the day of your surgery.

**HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR MY SURGERY?**

**DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING** (including water) after midnight the day before surgery unless your physician or anesthesiologist directs you otherwise. Undigested food/liquids in the stomach may cause complications and your surgery could be postponed / cancelled.

**DISCUSS YOUR CURRENT MEDICATIONS** with your physician and surgeon as to which medications, (i.e. blood pressure, seizure, heart) if any, should be taken on the morning of surgery with a small sip of water. Bring a list of current medications to the hospital with you.

**LEAVE YOUR VALUABLES WITH WHOMEVER ACCOMPLIES YOU**

Wear loose, comfortable clothing, especially for procedures involving extremities. Shower or bathe, and brush your teeth (don’t swallow any water) the morning of surgery to feel refreshed and to minimize the chance of infection.

**PEDIATRIC PATIENTS**

Don’t forget to bring a diaper bag, bottle, Sippy Cup, or pacifier to comfort your child in recovery. Feel free to bring your child’s blanket or favorite toy for added reassurance.

You will remain with your child during the pre-operative phase and encouraged to assist with your child’s recovery as soon as your child is awake.

**ARRANGE FOR AN ADULT TO DRIVE YOU HOME** and to stay with you 24 hours after the procedure. You may need assistance with your activities after surgery, particularly after general anesthesia or sedation.

**LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ACCOMPANY YOU** to the Ambulatory Surgery Center. We suggest only one individual accompany you to maximize comfort for all patients.

**SIBLINGS SHOULD NOT ACCOMPANY THE PEDIATRIC PATIENT** to the Ambulatory Surgery Center. Parents will want to focus all their attention on the child during the recovery phase.

**AVOID NAIL POLISH, MAKEUP, LOTIONS, CREAMS, POWDERS, OR PERFUME.** Nail polish and makeup can interfere with our ability to monitor oxygen levels in your blood.

**REFRAIN FROM SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ILLICIT DRUGS, or DRINKING ALCOHOL** 24 hours prior to surgery.

**IF YOU SUSPECT YOU ARE PREGNANT OR YOU EXPERIENCE HEALTH CHANGES,** contact your physician. Anesthesia and medications can be harmful to a developing fetus. Report even minor changes, such as a cough, elevated temperature or cold to your physician or surgeon.

**ARRIVE AT THE TIME DESIGNATED BY YOUR PHYSICIAN** and be sure to allow time for traffic congestion, unexpected delays, and parking.

**WE DO NOT ALLOW OBSERVERS** to accompany the patient into the surgery room (suite) where the operation is performed due to insurance regulations and patient privacy.