

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED SURGERY

Welcome!

The Ambulatory/Pre-surgical Unit (ASU/PSU) at Lawrence Hospital Center is designed to care for patients who need surgery or procedures that safely allow you to return home on the same day.

To Prepare You...

Pre-Operative Interview and Registration

The ASU/PSU/Pediatric staff will telephone you and schedule an appointment for your pre-operative interview, registration and testing.

On the day of your scheduled interview, you will be asked to bring:

- health insurance information
- a list of medications you are currently taking

Please go to Patient Registration in the main lobby. A staff member will complete your registration; a Registered Nurse (RN) will review your medical history and interview you. The RN will provide you with the necessary information to prepare you for your upcoming surgery or procedure. At that time, any questions you have will be answered.

Pre-Testing

At the time of your initial visit, you will complete any necessary testing that your physician has ordered. These tests may include laboratory blood work, electro-cardiogram (EKG), and X-rays. The RN will direct you to the testing areas after your interview.

Preparation for Surgery

- Do NOT eat or drink ANYTHING after midnight on the day of your scheduled surgery. This includes water, gum, candy and ice chips.
- Wear loose fitting clothing that can be easily changed and is comfortable to wear home after the surgery or procedure. Bring a pair of flat, non-skid shoes or slippers with you.
- Bring a small suitcase for your clothes, if your surgery requires an overnight stay.
- Leave valuables (jewelry, money, credit cards) at home.
- If you have a cold, fever, or do not feel well, call your surgeon as soon as possible.
- Medications should be taken with a sip of water only, as directed by your physician.

On The Day of Your Surgery

You will be instructed to arrive up to 3 hours before your surgery time (for 8:00 am surgery, please arrive at 6:15 am) to allow for changes in the Operating Room schedule which may result due to emergencies.

You may bring a companion with you, but please limit the number of visitors since they will be asked to wait for you in the waiting area during your surgery or procedure.

Upon arrival, please go directly to the Ambulatory Surgery Unit on the 4th floor where a staff member will direct you either to your room or to the waiting area. At the appropriate time, you will be given a hospital gown to wear, and you will be prepared for your surgery or procedure. According to your physician's orders, this may involve a skin "prep" and shave, breathing treatments, and/or an administration of intravenous fluids and medications.

Your Surgery or Procedure

After being escorted to the Operating Room (OR) area, you will meet the Anesthesiologist and the Operating Room nurse (RN). The OR nurse will again interview you.

Recovery

Following your surgery, you will be taken to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) where you will be closely monitored by RN nursing staff until you are fully awake. Depending upon your surgery or procedure, you will then either return to the ASU or to an inpatient room where you will be reunited with family and friends (visitation is limited to one person, post-op).

If you are returning to the ASU, you will be encouraged to rest awhile, and your RN will assist you in preparing to return home.

Discharge Home

Please arrange for an adult to drive you home. For your own safety, you will not be permitted to drive or leave the hospital without an adult escort.

A complete set of written discharge instructions ordered by your physician will be explained by the RN and a copy will be given to you.

Parking Convenience

Discount parking is available in our parking lot. A voucher will be given to you by the Patient Registration staff.

Important Points to Remember

- Do NOT eat or drink ANYTHING after midnight
- Take your medication with a sip of water only, as directed by your physician.
- Plan to arrive 3 hours before your surgery. (For 8:00 am surgery, please arrive at 6:15 am)
- Bring a small suitcase for your clothes if you are staying overnight. If you are only staying overnight, you are expected to be discharged by 9:00 am on the day following surgery.
- Arrange for an adult to drive you home.
- Discount parking is available. A voucher will be given to you in Patient Registration.

*We look forward to making
your visit to the Lawrence
Hospital Center ASU
a pleasant one.
Any additional questions?
Please call us at 914-787-4993.*