

What to Expect on the Day of Your Procedure

REGISTRATION

Enter through the main entrance of the hospital. You will then go to your left and pick up the telephone or knock on the door to let us know that you are here. We will take you to the outpatient room for you to be prepared for your procedure. You will be allowed to bring in one family member with you. Upon entering your room, staff will have you sign the registration paperwork to get you signed in for your visit.

PREOPERATIVE HOLDING AREA

You will spend 30-60 minutes in the pre-operative holding area, although this time can be longer depending on room readiness and arrival of the surgeon. The nurses will keep you informed of any delays.

The nurse and anesthesia team will review your medical history, your medication, and start your IV if needed. The surgical staff will verify your procedure, answer any questions you have about your procedure and the surgeon will verify and mark your surgical site (if applicable).

OPERATING ROOM

When the surgeon and the operating room are ready for you, your family may be asked to return to the waiting area, and you will be taken to the OR. The surgical staff can give you and your family an estimate of how long your surgery will be but note that the total time in the operating room also includes administering and discontinuing anesthesia, positioning, and preparing the operative site and transferring you to the recovery room.

When the surgery is complete, the operating room team will notify your family. If your family plans on leaving the hospital, they will be asked to leave a contact number where they can be reached. The surgery staff will update your family every hour during your procedure.

RECOVERY ROOM

For patients who receive general anesthesia, you will spend about 30-60 minutes in the recovery room where a nurse will check your vital signs, pain, nausea, incision site (if applicable), and assist you with any safety and comfort needs.

If you received local anesthesia or monitored controlled anesthesia, you will bypass recovery return to the pre-operative holding area following your procedure.

DISCHARGE

After recovery, you will return to the pre-operative area where you will be provided a drink and will be monitored until you are ready to go home. The amount of time spent in this area will be different for each patient but could be 30-60 minutes. The nurse will go over your postoperative instructions with you and your family/friend. You will be discharged with a responsible adult, who is age 18 or older.

**Occasionally, the surgical case before you will take longer than anticipated. A member of the surgical team will communicate this to you and your family. If this happens, you will need to wait in the pre-operative holding area longer than expected.*