Preparing for Surgery

Patient Guide

The **safety** and **comfort** of our patients **is our priority.**

You play an important role in partnering with us to ensure a safe, efficient, and exceptional experience.

If you have any remaining questions after reading these instructions, please call your surgeon's office.

**SURGERY DETAILS:**

____________________________________________

**Date**

____________________________________________

**Physician**

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**Arrival Time:**

If you have not received a call from Surgical Services or your surgeon's office BY 5:00 pm on the day before your surgery, please call the Same Day Surgery Unit at (931) 783-2190.

**Physicians referral line:**

1-877-377-2762
1 Medical Center Boulevard
Cookeville, TN 38501
931.528.2541

crmchealth.org
**BEFORE SURGERY**

“BEFORE COMING TO THE HOSPITAL” - CHECKLIST
NOTHING TO EAT AFTER MIDNIGHT. MAY DRINK ONLY CLEAR LIQUIDS (WATER, GATORADE, BLACK COFFEE) TWO HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL TO THE HOSPITAL.

- Remove contact lenses, and wear your glasses or bring your contact lens case with you.
- Remove jewelry (including rings and all body piercings). Jewelry, including body piercings, presents a potential safety risk.
- Leave jewelry and other valuables at home. We do not have a locked area in which to keep them.

**STEP 1:**
In the shower, wash your face and body with antibacterial soap (such as Dial) using a clean washcloth. Shampoo hair as you normally do.

**STEP 2:**
Wash body thoroughly from the neck down (avoiding the vagina and rectal area) with Chlorhexidine. Pay special attention to the area where you will have surgery as well as the stomach, belly button, hands, between finger/toe nails, elbows, ankles, knees (front and back), under skin folds (stomach and breasts) and under arms.

**STEP 3:**
Ask for help if you are unable to wash certain areas of your body.

**STEP 4:**
Rinse very well and dry with a clean towel.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

1. **SHOWER DAILY** beginning two days before surgery with antibacterial soap and Chlorhexidine, then **AGAIN** the morning of your surgery, before coming to the hospital, following above instructions.

2. **DO NOT SHAVE ANY BODY PARTS** from the neck down. Shaving increases your risk of infection when you have surgery.

3. **AFTER YOU SHOWER,** the morning of surgery, do not use powder, deodorant, perfumes or lotions. Please remove nail polish from fingers and toes.

4. **WEAR FRESHLY LAUNDERED** clothes after your shower and to the hospital.

**TAKING CARE OF YOUR TEETH**
Brush your teeth and tongue with a soft bristle toothbrush with any brand of toothpaste. If you have dentures, do your routine cleaning. Don’t forget to rinse your mouth with mouthwash.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Blood Thinners: __________________
________________________________
Insulin: ______________________
________________________________

Tylenol (acetaminophen) is acceptable

Please take the following medication the morning of surgery.
**SURGICAL PROCESS**

**ONCE YOU ARRIVE**
Go to the surgical waiting reception desk. A staff member will escort you to an area to prepare for your surgery.

*If you are running late on the day of your surgery or have any questions or concerns about anything regarding your surgery, please call the Same Day Surgery Unit at 931-783-2190.*

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

**IN THE SAME DAY OR HOLDING AREA:**
- Meet your surgeon, anesthesia provider, and nurse care team.
- Proper safety checks which include a list of regulations is undergone before every surgery.
- Possible additional blood tests.

**IN THE POST-ANESTHESIA CARE UNIT (PACU):**
You will be monitored by a nurse until you wake up from anesthesia.

**IF ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL:**
You will be transported to an inpatient floor, where you will be cared for by a team of caregivers until you have recovered sufficiently.

**IN THE SAME-DAY SURGERY UNIT:**
After your surgery you will receive care by a team of caregivers until you have recovered sufficiently.

If going home the same day as your surgery, **YOU MUST HAVE A RIDE** from a family member or a friend.

You will not be able to operate a vehicle, leave in a taxi or take public transportation by yourself.

**DISCHARGED HOME:**
As a service to our patients, prior to leaving the hospital, CRMC Outpatient Pharmacy can fill your discharge medication(s).

Bring insurance and prescription cards.

You (or family member or caregiver) may pick up your medication(s) at the CRMC Outpatient Pharmacy.

This program is optional and is offered for your convenience. Please note that you have the right to select any pharmacy you wish to provide medication(s) prescribed by your physician.

*If you need any more information before making a decision, please feel free to contact a pharmacist at 931-783-2552.*