

# what to expect the day of your surgery

## Pre-Surgery

- You will be asked to change into a hospital gown and give all of your belongings to your nurse or family/friends for secure storage. If you are staying overnight, these items will be delivered to your room.
- You will be asked to remove any contact lens, dentures, partials, hearing aids, nail polish and jewelry.
- Your nurse will check your vital signs and review your medical history, medications, allergies and the procedure you will be having. An IV will be started (except for pediatric patients) and any necessary laboratory work sent off.
- You will be asked to sign a surgery consent form.
- You will meet the members of your surgical team. This may include:
  - **Your surgeon**
  - **Anesthesiologist**
  - **Nurse Anesthetist**
  - **Pre-op nurse**
  - **Operating room nurse**
  - **Post-anesthesia care nurse**
  - **Various other healthcare professionals**
- After your pre-op nurse has prepared you for surgery, a family member or friend can stay with you in the pre-operative area. When it is time for your surgery, they will be asked to wait in the waiting area. Your driver can enjoy a complimentary meal at the Bistro. If you are accompanied by others, they too may dine in the Bistro for a nominal fee.

## Operating Room

- You will be transported to the operating room by your surgical nurse.
- Once in the operating room, our team will call a “time out” to perform additional checks to ensure your safety. Your skin will be cleansed with an antimicrobial agent and shaved, if needed. All body areas will be draped except the part that will be operated on. Your anesthesiologist will be at your side and your surgeon will guide the team through the actual operation. Depending on the length and complexity of your surgery, a number of other team members will be present. The care team may include: nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, surgical assistants, and surgical technicians.

## Updates for Family & Friends

Depending on the length of surgery, your family and friends will be updated either periodically or following the procedure. Physicians typically do not see patients in Recovery due to the patient’s level of sedation. They will update your family accordingly.



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## Post-Surgery (Recovery Room)

- Once the surgery is complete, you will be taken to the Recovery Room. You will be continuously monitored by the nursing and anesthesia team.
- Nausea can be common after surgery due to the medications given in the Operating Room.
- Under most circumstances, family members are not permitted in the Recovery Room. However, parents are allowed in the Recovery Room to help their child with the recovery process.

## For Outpatients:

When you are fully awake and alert, and your pain is tolerable, you may be discharged home.

## For Observation/Inpatients:

You will remain in the Recovery Room until the Anesthesiologist determines you are well enough to be transferred to the Inpatient Unit. You will be reunited with your visitors when you are in your room.

## Outpatient Discharge

- When you are ready to leave the hospital, the Recovery Room nurse will review (with you and the person accompanying you) any discharge instructions regarding medications, diet, surgical dressings and follow-up appointments. All instructions will be provided to you in writing—along with contact phone numbers—should you have questions after discharge.
- You may not remember the specifics of your discharge instructions due to the medications given by anesthesia. We encourage you to review the discharge instructions with your family or friend who is accompanying you today.
- Your driver will be asked to move their vehicle to Door #4 where you will be discharged. A Recovery Room staff member will assist you into your vehicle and provide you with a take-home meal.
- Please have a responsible adult stay with you for 24 hours after surgery.

## Inpatient Visiting Hours

- Visiting hours are not limited unless otherwise requested by the patient or the physician. We recommend visitors not stay long hours due to the patient's need for rest.
- Visitors may use the hospital's main entrance (Door #3). After 8:00PM and on weekends, visitors may enter at Door #4 (to the right of the main entrance) which is security-controlled.
- A large comfortable lobby area with large screen television, wireless internet, complimentary refreshments and reading materials is available to family and friends during regular business hours.

## BISTRO

The Bistro area is just a few steps away from the lobby. There are complimentary snacks and beverages available for family members. Your driver will be given a free meal voucher. Other family members and friends are welcome to order off the menu (at a nominal fee) should they wish to do so. The Bistro provides comfortable seating, television, restrooms and access to a writing desk and telephone.

## Follow-Up Appointment

Your first post-surgical **appointment will be at your surgeon's office** (and *NOT* at OakLeaf Surgical Hospital).

From all of the staff at  
OakLeaf Surgical Hospital,

We wish you the very best experience...  
for us, it's all about *you!*



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