Instructions for Visitors for Ambulatory Surgery Patients

We thank you for your patience and understanding with our visitation policy during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to helping you and your family member stay in touch with each other and our team.

For updates, please call our Family Waiting Room - 212-746-0582

During admission: We will ask for the contact information for your family member or escort.

During the procedure: All visitors **MUST** leave the building for their safety and the safety of others.

After the procedure: The surgeon or a member of the surgical team will contact your family member with an update.

During recovery: Visitors will NOT be allowed in the Recovery Room (not applicable to pediatric patients). We encourage patients and their family members to stay in contact via telephone or video call. Our Patient Navigators can assist you with calling your family.

Same Day Discharge: A patient Navigator will call your family member to plan when they will be able to pick you up from the recovery room.





Adult Preoperative Patient Instructions

DO NOT eat solid food (including candy and mints) after midnight on the day of your procedure

YOU MAY drink up to 8 ounces of clear liquids on the day of surgery, up to 2 hours before your hospital arrival time.

OK: water, sports drinks, apple juice, or black coffee/tea.

NO: milk, cream, alcohol, or drinks you cannot see through (e.g., orange juice).

If your surgeon has given you diet instructions other than those listed above, follow your surgeon's instructions.

Take all of your usual medications with a sip of water prior to coming to the hospital unless instructed otherwise.

- If you are taking any over-the-counter herbal/alternative medications (e.g., Vitamin E), stop at least one week before your procedure.
- Usually your surgeon will want you to stop taking aspirin, aspirin-containing products (Excedrin), or NSAIDs (Ibuprofen, Advil, Motrin, Aleve, Naprosyn) at least one week before your procedure. Tylenol is OK.
- If you have stents in any artery in your body (heart, brain, elsewhere) DO NOT STOP TAKING ASPIRIN UNTIL YOUR SURGEON AND CARDIOLOGIST DECIDE WHAT IS SAFEST FOR YOU. Continuing aspirin 81mg daily through the day of surgery is recommended in most patients with stents. Other blood thinners might be stopped. Your surgeon and cardiologist should make this decision together.
- If you are taking any other prescription blood thinning medication such as Coumadin (warfarin), Plavix, Lovenox, Xarelto, Eliquis, Pradaxa, Effient, Ticlid, Pletal, Aggronox, etc., tell your surgeon and ask him/her to speak with your prescribing physician about if/when you should stop these medications before your procedure.

If there is any change in your health leading up to surgery, please notify your surgeon's office immediately. A change in health includes (but is not limited to) chest pain, shortness of breath, or infection (fever, cold, stomach virus, UTI, etc.).

Additional Information

- You will need an adult to escort you home after your procedure.
- On the day of surgery, please:
 - o Wear comfortable clothes.
 - o Do not wear makeup (especially eye makeup), jewelry, or nail polish.
 - o Shower and shampoo your hair within 24 hours of surgery.
 - Brush your teeth on the morning of surgery.
 - Bring a complete list of medications you are taking (including doses)

The Day Before Surgery:

A hospital nurse will call you to tell you what time you should arrive and where to go based on your procedure. If you have not heard from us by 4 pm the day before your procedure, please call the department of Perioperative Services at (212) 746-5299 between 4 pm - 6 pm to find out what time to arrive.

The Day of Surgery:

Enter through the main hospital entrance and proceed to the Information Desk. 525 E. 68th Street (East side of York Ave.) New York, NY 10065

Questions?

For preoperative instructions, contact your surgeon's office. For hospital billing questions, call (212) 297-4545. For anesthesia related questions, call (212) 746-3885.

NPO Guidelines

Before elective procedures requiring general anesthesia, regional anesthesia or monitored anesthesia care:

- Please do not consume ANY solid foods, non-clear liquids including milk, milk products, creamers, gum, mints, or candy after midnight the night prior to your surgery.
- Consumption of up to 8 oz. of CLEAR LIQUIDS such as water, Gatorade, tea, black coffee, clear fruit juice without pulp is encouraged up until 2 hours prior to your admission to the hospital.
- If you have been given specific instructions from your surgeon regarding consumption of liquids preoperatively, then please follow those instructions.
- If you are a diabetic and taking any form of Insulin, you should receive specific instructions regarding insulin dosage and guidelines regarding consumption of fluids.

ACCEPTABLE CLEAR LIQUIDS	NO!
Water	Milk
Gatorade/Powerade sports drinks (avoid red if having	Cream or other milk-based products
colorectal procedure or surgery)	Coffee with cream/milk
Apple juice	Tea with cream/milk
Black coffee with or without	Orange juice
sugar	Any juices with pulp
Tea with or without sugar	Any powder-based drink
Gelatin Dessert	Alcohol





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PLEASE DISCONTINUE TAKING THE FOLLOWING AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE SURGERY:

All aspirin and aspirin-like compounds, ibuprofen, NSAIDS, naproxen, naproxen sodium, including:

(the following is a partial list)

Advil Ibuprofen Bufferin arthritis strength caplets Aleve Buffering caplets/tablets Indocin Cama arthritis pain reliever Midol Alka-seltzer

Alka-seltzer - antacid/pain reliever Cama-Inlay tabs Minacet w/Codein

Anacin Celebrex (if given long-term) Mobigesic analgesic tablets

Anaprox Cheracol Caps Motrin Cialis Ansaid Naprosyn Arthritis pain formula tablets Clinoril Norgesic Arthritis strength buffing tablets Congesperin Norwich tablets

Nuprin ibuprofen caplets/tablets Ascodeen-30 Cope

Ascriptin Darvon P-A-C analgesic tablets Aspergum Doans caplets/pills Pepto bismol liquid/tablets

Percodan Aspirin Dristan Aspirin suppositories Dristan sinus caplets Percogesic

Duragesic Sine-aid IB

Bayer maximum caplets/tablets Ecotrin caplets/tablets Sine-off tablets, aspirin formula Bayer 8-hour extended release tabs Effervescent tablets St. Joseph adult chewable

Bayer select ibuprofen Empirin tablets Trigesic Bayer therapy caplets Excedrin Ursinus Inlay-tablets

BC powder/cold powder Feldene Vanquish analgesic caplets

Buff-A-Comp Fiorinal Viagra Formula caplets Buffadyne

Vioxx Buffaprin caplets/tablets Haltran tablets

"Herbal" supplements:

(the following is a partial list)

Ephedra or ma huang

Fish oil

Flax Ginko Garlic Ginseng

Valerian Kava St. John's wort Vitamin

Important note: This is NOT a complete list. Other products may contain blood thinning compounds to be avoided. Call the nurse at 212-746-5472 with any questions about any medications you are taking.

You may take Tylenol if needed.