

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR OUTPATIENT SURGICAL VISIT

You are scheduled to have surgery at Front Range Orthopedic Surgery Center. We believe that patients who are informed about their procedure and have been prepared preoperatively can expect the best results. Following is information pertinent to your visit.

Prior to your surgery, your doctor will evaluate your health status. A medical history, physical examination, and any diagnostic tests will be performed. Your doctor will explain the planned surgical procedure and the potential risks and complications that may occur. You will be asked to sign a consent form authorizing your doctor to perform the procedure and verifying that you understand what will occur. In addition, a nurse from the surgery center will contact you to review your health history and go over pre-operative instructions.

On the day of your surgery, you will be expected to arrive on time. **If you arrive more than 15 minutes later than the requested time your surgery may be cancelled.** When you arrive at the surgery center you will complete any necessary forms for admission. You will then be taken to the preoperative area. While in the pre-op area an intravenous catheter will be inserted in order to deliver IV medications. A nurse will collect pertinent medical information and verify the surgery site. A shave and scrub prep may also be done around the incision site. One adult may wait with you after you are prepped for surgery.

An anesthesiologist will discuss with you and your surgeon the form of anesthesia to best use for your procedure. The day of surgery the anesthesiologist will perform a pre-anesthetic assessment and further discuss your anesthetic options. The types of anesthesia are:

- General Anesthesia - This type of anesthesia involves breathing anesthetic agents. The anesthesiologist will assist your breathing while you are under general anesthesia. During the procedure you will not be aware of your surroundings or feel any pain.
- Regional Anesthesia - This type of anesthesia involves blocking a nerve in the area of your surgery. You will be awake and able to breath on your own. You may also receive medication to sedate you to insure your comfort.
- Local Anesthesia - This type of anesthesia involves injecting the area around your surgery site with local anesthetic, similar to what a dentist may use. Sedation may also be given with this type of anesthetic by an anesthesiologist or a registered nurse.

After your procedure you will be transferred to the recovery area where you will be monitored by the nursing staff. Recovery may be a two-phase process. Once you are in the second phase a family member will be allowed to sit with you.

Once you meet certain discharge criterion, which determines your recovery from the anesthetic, you will be prepared to leave the facility. **It is required that you have a ride with a responsible adult (18 years of age or older) who will escort you and who will participate with your post-operative care upon discharge.** You may require a caregiver to stay with you the first surgical night. This should be discussed with your surgeon and the pre-operative nurse in advance of the surgery date.

A nurse will discuss with you your discharge orders and give you instructions for your home care. You will also be given a written copy of these instructions to take with you.

We at Front Range Orthopedic Surgery Center want you to have the best outpatient surgical experience possible. You can expect a follow up phone call following your procedure in order for us to inquire about your recovery process and satisfaction with your visit. We would greatly appreciate your feedback so that we may continue to improve and provide quality patient care. You will be given a satisfaction survey during your post-operative visit. Please fill it out and return it to the clinic staff.

If you have any questions regarding information found here, please feel free to call us at (720) 494-3200