



University of Kentucky Patient Education

*Providing patient and family education
from hospital to clinic to home.*

Getting Ready for Surgery

You have been scheduled for surgery at the University of Kentucky. In order to make this as easy as possible, it is important for you to know the following information. If you have any questions, please call your surgeon's office or the pre-op clinic at (859) 323-6950.

Pre-Operative Anesthesia Clinic:

- After your surgery is scheduled, your surgeon or anesthesia doctor may request you be seen in pre-op anesthesia clinic prior to your scheduled date of surgery. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8p.m. - 4:30p.m. Pre-op Clinic is located on the 2nd floor of the Kentucky Clinic, Wing C.
- In this clinic, you will be evaluated for anesthesia and receive pre-operative teaching. Tests (blood work, x-rays, etc.) your doctors need for your care may also be done.

Day before surgery:

- The Surgery Center will call you between **12:00 Noon - 6:00p.m.** the day before your surgery to let you know what time you need to arrive the next morning. If your surgery is on Monday you will receive a call on Friday.
- If you don't have a telephone or will not be home, you must call the Surgery Center at **(800) 333-6450 or (859) 323-4649 between the hours of 12 Noon and 6p.m.** If you cannot call till after 6p.m., call (859) 323-5631 for your arrival time.
- If you decide **NOT** to have your operation or if you develop a fever (temperature over 100 degrees), breathing or viral illness, or have to go to the emergency room, call your surgeon's office and pre-op clinic, (800) 333-6450 or (859) 323-4649, as soon as possible. After 6p.m. or on weekends or holidays, please call (859) 323-5631

Day before surgery instructions (Unless your surgeon has advised otherwise):

- **DO NOT EAT or DRINK** anything after midnight (this includes food, water, candy, gum and breath mints).
- Do not smoke or use tobacco products after midnight.
- Do not drink alcohol 24 hours prior to surgery.
- Do not take any medication after midnight **UNLESS** you are told by your surgeon or the pre-op clinic to take them. Take medications with a small sip of water.

If these instructions are not followed, the risk of anesthesia is increased and your surgery may be delayed or cancelled.

On the day of your surgery:

- You may brush your teeth and rinse your mouth.
- Wear comfortable clothing.
- Do not wear any jewelry. **All rings and body piercing *must* be removed.**
- Remove nail polish and makeup.
- Bring your dentures with you.
- Do not wear contact lenses. Wear your glasses instead.
- You may be asked to use a skin antiseptic called Hibiclens the evening before and the morning of surgery to help prevent infection.

If you are going home the day of surgery:

- You **must have a responsible adult** to drive you home or to ride with you in a taxi. Your surgery *will be cancelled* if you don't.
- Someone should stay with you for the first 24 hours when you go home.

Arriving at the hospital the morning of surgery:

- It is very important that you **arrive on time** or your surgery may be delayed or cancelled.
- Park in the hospital parking garage.
- Go to the main entrance of the hospital.
 - **Go the Information Desk and tell them you are scheduled for surgery.**
 - After you are registered you will be given directions to the surgery waiting room.

Please remember to bring the following with you to the hospital:

- Your insurance card.
- Your Guardianship, Power of Attorney, Health Care Surrogate, or Living Will documents (if applicable to your situation).
- A list of all the medications that you take on a regular basis **or** bring the medications with you.
- Do **not** bring any valuables with you (jewelry, money, etc).

Getting to the hospital:

Ask for a current map with directions to the hospital or check the UK HealthCare web site at www.ukhealthcare.uky.edu.