Welcome
Community Hospital South. Your physician and our professional care unit (POCU) staff will do their best to make your stay with us comfortable and pleasant. We will provide you with information to help you prepare for your visit.

If you have any questions after reviewing this information, please call the pre-op clinic at 317.887.7471. Our pre-op team will be happy to assist you. Please be ready to answer questions about your past surgeries, medications, allergies, and your present health status. A nurse in the pre-op unit will also discuss with you any recent medical visits or specialists that you have seen; the nurse will ask you about any recent labs, x-rays, EKGs or other tests you may have had in the past.

Preparation for your surgery

On the day of your surgery:

1. You may be required to empty your bladder prior to your surgery. Instructions will be provided by your nurse. Please do this as soon as possible before you arrive at Community Hospital South.

2. You will be asked to remove all jewelry and other personal belongings. You may wear your hospital gown provided by Community Hospital South.

3. You will be asked to remove makeup, nail polish, and any other accessories. Your hair will be shaved before surgery, if necessary.

4. You will be given pre-operative medication, usually a sedative, to help you relax before the surgery.

5. Your surgical site will be marked with a marker or a radiopaque marking system before surgery.

6. Your surgery may be performed using regional anesthesia or general anesthesia. You will be asleep during the surgery.

7. You will be monitored by the surgical team throughout the surgery.

8. After your surgery, you will be taken to the recovery room where you will be monitored closely until you are stable.

9. You will be taken to your hospital room once you are stable and ready to go home.

10. Your family members will be notified when you are ready to be discharged.

In the event of an emergency, please go to the Emergency Room on the main floor of Community Hospital South.

Community Hospital South
1402 E. County Line Road South
Indianapolis, IN 46227

317.887.7000
eCommunity.com

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surgery

Pre-op clinic registration
On the day of your pre-op clinic and your surgery, you will receive a phone call from a registration clerk. If you do not receive a call, please pre-register online at ecommunity. (Call us at 317.355.3920). The registration clerk will give you information about your insurance coverage and the day of your surgery. Please bring photo identification and insurance card on the day of your pre-op clinic and the day of your surgery.

Pre-op clinic visit provides you with the opportunity to review the pre-operative care unit at Community South. During this visit you may be required to have x-rays or one or more consultations. Your medical and surgical history will be discussed and important educational information will be provided. You and your family will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding your upcoming surgical experience.

Before a pre-op clinic visit
A pre-op clinic visit is not necessary, you may receive a call from a pre-op nurse prior to the day of your surgery. The nurse will ask you questions regarding your medical and surgical history, medications and current status. This will also provide you an opportunity to take care of any questions. If you do not receive a call before surgery, you will obtain your information when you arrive.

Arrival at the hospital
When you arrive for your clinic visit, please park in front of the hospital. Parking is free of charge. Enter through the front doors and check in at the registration desk. The registrars will complete any last minute paper work with you and direct you to the surgery area. The surgery waiting area is located on the main floor and is not far from the cafeteria and gift shop. An ATM is also available. If you forget any last-minute details, the concierge can assist you.

Day of surgery
Diet
Do not eat or drink anything after midnight prior to your surgery. Eating or drinking prior to surgery may result in the cancellation of your surgery. If your surgery is scheduled for local anesthesia this restriction may not apply, but be sure to ask your surgeon.

Medication
Do not bring any medications from home, unless instructed otherwise. Bring a complete list of your medications (including dosages), over-the-counter and herbal medications with you. Please call 317.887.7471 if you have other questions.

Valuables
Please leave valuables at home, including jewelry, credit cards and money. A family member or visitor will be asked to take care of any valuables that you bring with you, including glasses and dentures. Cosmetics: Do not wear makeup. Fingernail polish is discouraged, however, manicured and artificial nails are acceptable.

Visitors
Once you are prepped for surgery, visitors will be permitted to stay with you in the pre-operative care unit until the time of your surgery. Your surgeon will talk with them in the surgery waiting room after your surgery is completed.

Transportation
If you are going home the day of surgery, you must receive local anesthesia only. This restriction may not apply. Be sure to ask your surgeon. Receiving sedation of any kind will require a responsible adult to drive you home. A cab ride home alone is not acceptable. If you are scheduled for a surgery with local anesthesia only, this restriction may not apply. Be sure to ask your doctor. Receiving sedation of any kind will require a responsible adult to drive you home. A cab ride home alone is not acceptable. If you are scheduled for a surgery with local anesthesia only, this restriction may not apply.

Have a pillow available in the car for comfort during the drive home. This is especially helpful for elevating an extremity after any orthopedic surgery.

Illness
If you develop cold or flu symptoms (sore throat, diarrhea, fever and productive cough) prior to your surgery, call your doctor! Your doctor will determine if you should proceed with your surgery.

Following surgery
Your mental judgment and perception may be altered temporarily after general anesthesia or sedation of any kind. Therefore, you should not drive a car, operate machinery or make important decisions for 24 hours following surgery.

Please arrange for someone to drive you home from the hospital and stay with you for the first 24 hours after surgery.

Parents or guardians of children should observe the child and notify the physician immediately if any unusual problems develop.

It is important to follow your physician's orders regarding medications and diet restrictions.

We want to be sure that your recovery progresses well and that you are satisfied with the services you receive at Community Hospital South. A post anesthesia care unit nurse will call you by phone 24 to 72 hours after your surgery. The nurse will ask how you are feeling and if you have any concerns.

We're listening
Have a question? Need something? Tell us about it. A concern you'd like to discuss? Ask to speak with your nurse or the nurse manager. On the day of surgery, we will ask for your email address or a survey will be given to you for comments/suggestions regarding your experience. We appreciate it if you would take the time to complete the survey and return it. We value your honest feedback. Thank you for choosing Community Hospital South.

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