

Care Gram

Day of Surgery

(Inpatient and Admission-Day)

Where to Go

Enter the Hospital at the John and Mary Alford Pavilion entrance located between the Emergency Department entrance and the main Hospital entrance. Take the gold elevators to the 2nd floor. Check in with the receptionist at the desk. If you are already in the Hospital as a patient, you will be taken to the second floor on a patient cart or bed.

Your Stay in Surgery

Once you have checked in, you will be taken to a special area (pre-op) to prepare for your surgery. In this area, your nurse will:

- Answer any further questions
- Provide comfort and reassurance
- Perform the needed activities to prepare you for surgery

Family or friends may wait with you while you are in the pre-op area. We may choose to limit the number of family and friends for safety and to protect the privacy of other patients.

Preparation

- You will be given a hospital gown and sock slippers to wear. Please remove all of your underclothes. Your belongings will be given to your family for safekeeping or placed in a patient locker.
- The nurse will also ask you to remove your:
 - Dentures or partial plate
 - Contacts or eyeglasses
 - Hearing aid(s)
 - Jewelry (including your rings) or hair clips
 - Nail polish, make-up, and body piercing jewelry
- Give your valuables to your support person or have them locked in a patient locker.
- If you need to wear dentures, partial plates, eyeglasses or hearing aid(s) in order to talk to the anesthesiologist, please tell your nurse. If you brought your own case for them, take it with you to surgery. Be sure it is labeled with your name. Otherwise, the nurse will label containers for these items with a patient label.
- Try to use the restroom before you are taken to surgery. Ask for help to the restroom if medicine was used to relax you.



**Licking Memorial
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Pre-Op Area

- Your surgeon will mark the site of your surgery prior to your procedure when necessary to distinguish the right from the left or left from right. For safety reasons, you will be asked several times about the correct side or site.
- The anesthesiologist will be available to answer any questions. You or your power of attorney will need to sign an Informed Consent form after discussing risks, benefits and alternatives with the surgeon. You already may have signed your consent forms in the doctor's office.
- Your vital signs (temperature, pulse, respirations and blood pressure) will be monitored.
- The nurse or anesthesia staff will start an IV.
- A small sensor will be placed on the tip of your finger to check the amount of oxygen in your blood.
- Your hair will be covered with a paper cap.
- For safety, you may have your surgery site clipped to remove hair. Please do not do this yourself.
- Again, for your safety, the nurse will verify the site of your surgery procedure with you and check your identification bracelet.
- Your support person will be directed to the surgery waiting room.

Surgery Room

When your surgeon is ready to operate, you will be taken to the surgery room. The room will be cool and you will be kept warm with extra blankets. A nurse will keep you informed of what is going on.

Several monitors will be used to track your vital signs during the procedure.

You may be given oxygen through a mask over your mouth and nose or through a tube in your nose. You will be asked to take slow, deep breaths. If you have trouble with things covering your face, please tell the nurse or anesthesia staff. The anesthesiologist will begin to give you medications through your IV that will make you feel sleepy.

If needed, a urinary catheter will be placed typically after you are asleep. For your safety and to prevent infection, your surgical site will be washed with an antiseptic solution to prepare for surgery and to help prevent infection. The final surgical site verification is done with the surgery team. Then, the procedure will begin.

Your family and friends may wait in the lobby during your surgery. Our electronic board system will help them track your progress through surgery.

Recovery Room

After surgery, you may be taken to the Phase I Unit to recover from the anesthetic. The nurses will monitor your blood pressure, pulse, respirations, pain level, IV site and surgical site. The length of time in Phase I varies with each patient procedure, but is typically 1 hour.

While you are recovering, the surgeon will speak with your family and/or friends near the surgical waiting room area.

When you are awake and have received pain and/or nausea medications, the staff will evaluate you. Then, you will be taken to your hospital room or back to the pre-op area if you are going to be discharged. Your family will be notified when they can visit after you are moved to your room.