

OUTPATIENT SURGERY INSTRUCTIONS

Before Surgery:

- 1. Nothing to eat or drink after midnight (not even a sip of water). When you brush your teeth the morning of surgery DO NOT swallow the water. NO GUM or CANDY.
- 2. Make sure to bathe the night before surgery; do not shave skin the night before surgery.
- 3. Please discuss your medications with the physician prior to surgery. Stop taking all vitamins, supplements, and probiotics 1 week prior to surgery as these often delay healing and can cause excessive bleeding.
- 4. If you are having surgery on your lower extremities, you will need crutches or a walker. If you have a pair, bring them with you. Otherwise, these can be purchased from any pharmacy.
- 5. The day of your surgery, arrive to the facility at the time you have been given. Wear loose clothing and leave all valuables and jewelry at home.
- 6. If you are having shoulder surgery, a large button up shirt is recommended.

Post-Surgical Instructions

- 1. Remember, you are having surgery. You will have pain. Our goal is to make the pain tolerable but we will not be able to get rid of it entirely.
- 2. Elevation is extremely important to minimize swelling and pain.
- 3. Ice should be used often. You will be given an ice pack to take home from the facility
- 4. Splints are to remain in place and are to be kept clean and dry. Additional instructions regarding your bandage will be given to you on the day of surgery.