



Patient information

Day of surgery instructions, morning – general anaesthetic/deep sedation

Your operation will be under general anaesthetic or deep sedation.

Date: _____ Time: _____

If you have any questions, or there are any changes to your health, e.g. if you become pregnant, please contact our pre-assessment unit.

If you cannot attend or are going to be late on the day of surgery, please contact: Bahamas Vision Centre

As there is limited space in the centre, please bring only one friend or relative with you on the day of your operation.

Fasting instructions – please read:

You must have nothing to eat from 12 midnight on the morning of your operation. This includes no chewing gum. However, you may drink clear water (not fizzy). This should be no more than 500mls up to 5am, with nothing after that.

Medication (including eye drops)

Please bring along all your medications, including eye drops and take these as you normally would, unless instructed otherwise.

- Please do not drive to the hospital for your surgery because your eye will be covered after surgery.
- Please have a bath or shower on the day or evening before coming in for your surgery as this will help decrease your chance of infection post-surgery.
- Leave any valuables, including mobile phones, before going into the operating room.
- Do not wear nail varnish, makeup or jewellery, as these items may interfere with the electrical equipment used to monitor your health during and after surgery.
- You will need to change into a theatre gown prior to surgery. You might want to bring a dressing gown as an additional cover up.
- You are also advised to wear flat shoes as you will have an eye patch on your eye after surgery which may affect your visual perception.
- If you wear dentures, you might be asked to remove them just before going to theatre.
- You will need to obtain a roll of surgical tape from your local pharmacy prior to surgery as you might need to wear a shield at night for up to two weeks following your operation.

What happens on the day of surgery?

Please come at the time specified on your appointment letter so that you can be seen by your doctor (who cannot leave the theatre once the list has started) prior to your surgery, and discuss and sign your consent form. Bahamas Vision Centre's surgery list begins at 8.30am. The nurse who sees you at the clinic will give you a full explanation of what will happen during the day.

Your doctors decide the order in which patients are treated, but this might change during the course of the morning, so please be patient if we cannot always give you the precise time or order in which you will be going to theatre.

How long will my visit last?

You should expect to be in hospital for between three and five hours, depending on how quickly you recover from your anaesthetic or sedation.

After your operation, we like to keep you in for at least an hour to ensure there are no problems. Before leaving, you might need a nurse or doctor to examine your operated eye.

The discharge process sometimes takes longer than anticipated so we recommend you make alternative arrangements for work, childcare etc. We will try to keep you informed of any delays and how long you can expect to wait. You will be given your prescription, eye shield and follow-up appointment after your final discharge.

Please note that some types of surgery require patients to return the following morning for review. You may go home by public transport, but it is essential that you have an adult accompanying you and we advise that there is someone to stay with you overnight.

Don't take your worries or troubles home with you

You are encouraged to ask as many questions as you like about your care, treatment and stay at the clinic.

If you have any concerns please ask to speak to the nurse in charge or the clinic coordinator during your visit.

Before you leave home, check that:

- you have all of your medications
- you have left your valuables at home.
- you have removed your nail varnish, makeup and jewellery
- you have packed your dressing gown (optional)
- you are wearing flat shoes
- you have written down any questions you would like to ask so that you don't forget.