

OPERATION

When you are transferred from the ward or day surgery unit to the operating theatre you will be awake. On arrival in the theatre I will see you briefly then the anaesthetist will take over your care and will commence your anaesthetic.

It is important to realise that during your operation you will be fully asleep if you are having a general anaesthetic.

POST-OPERATIVE PERIOD

After your surgery is completed you will be taken to the recovery room where specialised nurses will care for you. Following a recovery period you will be returned to the day surgery unit or ward. For most operations around the face and jaws local anaesthetic is given at the time of surgery, when you are asleep. When you awake from your operation, your tongue, cheeks and/or lips will be numb depending on the operation performed.

VISITORS

If you are staying overnight following your operation, it is suggested that your visitors are restricted to adult members of your immediate family only.

GOING HOME

If you are having a day surgery procedure performed it is essential that a responsible adult stay with you on the first night at home.

If you are admitted overnight, on the morning after surgery it is usual to be discharged from hospital between 9 to 10:30am unless more major surgery has been performed. You must have someone to pick you up from the hospital.

A review appointment will be arranged for you if required and will be written in your post-operative instruction booklet that you will be given.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

Following your surgery, it will be necessary to take time off work or school/university and a medical certificate will be provided. A certificate can be requested in hospital and please notify the nurses of your admission if this is required.



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HOSPITAL ADMISSION PATIENT INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

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All arrangements for your hospital admission for surgery will be organized by our office. However, you will need to complete the hospital admission forms and send them to the hospital at least one week before the date of your admission.

If you are planned for Day Surgery, you will be admitted to the Day Surgery Unit of the hospital. If you are planned for an overnight admission, you will be admitted to the ward.

In most hospitals there are two and four bed wards, and private rooms. If you prefer a private room please inform the hospital and our secretaries who will try to accommodate this request. It is wise to ensure that your insurance will cover the private room as the rebates offered by various health funds differ depending upon the hospital and your particular health fund. Please also note that the availability of a private room on your admission cannot be assured as it depends on patient admissions and discharges from the hospital.

Cigarette smoking should be avoided at least one week prior to your admission.

You must have a responsible adult arranged to collect you from the hospital following your operation. You cannot travel home unaccompanied in a taxi.

Please follow the instructions in this pamphlet.

INSTRUCTIONS

FORMS

Attached are the pre-admission forms for the hospital. Please complete these in accurate detail and send them to the hospital at least one week before the date of admission.

FASTING INSTRUCTIONS

- Please do not eat or drink anything from the preceding midnight, not even water, as your operation will be in the morning of the day that you are being admitted.
- Please do not eat or drink anything from either 7am or a minimum of 6 hours prior to your admission time, not even water. You may have a light breakfast, such as orange juice, tea/coffee (with milk) and one slice of toast at 6:45am. Eggs, dairy products or a full cooked breakfast must be avoided.
- If you are being admitted the day before the operations, the hospital will organise the time after which you will fast.

LOCATION, TIME & DATE

Please arrive at:

.....Hospital

at:am/pm

on: 20.....

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

Wear comfortable and loose fitting clothing to the hospital, and bring a nightgown/pyjamas and personal toiletries if an overnight admission is planned.

Please bring ALL of your medications, including tablets, patches and inhalers, to the hospital

AFTER ARRIVAL IN THE HOSPITAL

On arrival in the hospital, and following completion of admission documents, you will be transferred to the day surgery unit or to the ward. The nurses will take routine observations, complete a health questionnaire and explain the details of the ward or day surgery unit. The Nurses will organise your change into a hospital gown/attire.

AFTER ADMISSION IN THE HOSPITAL

The specialist anaesthetist will undertake a consultation with a medical history and will examine you prior to your operation. It is important to inform the anaesthetist, and surgeon, of all medications and drugs which you are currently taking and those which you have taken in the preceding 2-3 weeks. Please ensure that you inform the anaesthetist about all aspects of your medical history.

Your anaesthetist may organise a pre-medication to be given prior to the operation. This is usually given about one hour prior to the operation depending upon the medication.

Please be reminded that cigarette smoking should be avoided for at least one week before your operation.