



## SURGERY AT WOODSTOCK HOSPITAL

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You have visited a surgeon and the decision has been made to proceed with surgery.

The following will provide you with an overview of your pre and post operative hospital experience:

- Your surgical day will be booked either as a "daysurgery" (which means you will have your surgery and go home the same day) or as a "sameday" (which means you will be admitted to the hospital following your surgery)
- The surgeon may want you to have consultation appointments with other specialists such as an anaesthetist or internal medicine doctor. If consultations have been requested, you will be notified by phone of these appointment dates and times

### Day of Surgery

- On the day of the surgery, you will register at Patient Registration which is located inside the front door of the hospital. Please bring your OHIP card and any other insurance coverage papers with you
- All patients are asked to **bring all their medications** with them in the originally dispensed containers. Remember to take medications the morning of surgery only as instructed by the preadmission nurse or anaesthetist
- The registration clerk will direct you to the surgical area on the second floor. A nurse will come out and call your name. If you have papers regarding your history and physical, or your consent, please give them to the nurse
- For those who are having your family or friend return later, please leave a phone number with the nurse where they can be reached if necessary
- You will be asked to remove all clothing and put on a hospital gown which does up at the back. If you feel you can not do so for some reason, please speak with the nurse. You will be provided with disposable slippers and a hat that covers your head
- The surgical team will guide you through the day. Your nurse will introduce herself and prepare you for your surgery as the doctors have directed. Your chart will be reviewed by the nurse to make sure that all the proper tests are completed, the medication list is up to date, and all the papers are filled out properly by everyone involved. (If further tests are needed at this time you will be informed).
- The majority of patients will have an intravenous solution started prior to surgery. This is to ensure proper fluid replacement and may be used to give your medication before surgery as ordered by the surgeon or anaesthetist. Your blood pressure, pulse, temperature and oxygen level will be recorded. A warm blanket will be given to you so you will be comfortable in the recliner chair while you wait for your surgery



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### **Day of Surgery Continued**

- There is a waiting time from the time you arrive until you go for your surgery so you may want to bring a book or magazine with you
- As time approaches for your surgery, an OR nurse will visit you to confirm information about your surgery. This nurse will do the final check on your chart and answer any questions or concerns
- The anaesthetist will speak with you either in the Daysurgery unit or in the OR room regarding any concerns or questions
- Before surgery begins, the operating team will do a "surgical check off list". This means everyone in the room will stop what they are doing to listen and confirm with the doctor your name and type of surgery you are having. The surgical procedure is then performed
- After surgery you will go to the recovery room ("PACU") where you will be closely monitored. An automatic blood pressure cuff is left on your arm to record your blood pressure every 15 minutes. A clip will be placed on your finger to record your oxygen level. The nurse will assess your pain level by asking you to state your pain level on a scale from one to ten. Pain control medication and other medications are administered as required

### **In the Day Surgery unit**

- You will be monitored until the time of discharge. Family is able to come in to see you briefly then will be asked to leave so you can sleep. Monitoring and care is based on each patient's individual needs
- The nurse is there to help you if you require assistance when getting ready to go home
- When you are ready to go home, the person you have named as your responsible driver will receive a call to pick you up. A time is set for the family or friend to return to Daycare and receive discharge instructions with you. Instructions are given to you and your family regarding your wound, prescription and continuing care. Your surgical day at Woodstock Hospital is now complete. Prescriptions can be filled at Woodstock Hospitals onsite pharmacy on the main level (Pharmasave) or at a pharmacy of your choice.

### **Sameday Patients**

- Patients staying in the hospital will now be cared for by the nurses on the surgical unit. Your family member will be given a room number either by the communication board or nurse.
- Your nurse will check your wound, maintain pain control and make sure you are continuing to recover as expected for the surgery you have had. Postoperative orders are carried out as your surgeon has requested. Your surgeon will advise you when you will be discharged



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Woodstock, ON

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### **Recovering at Home**

Your recovery time will continue at home. Please consider the following when going home:

- Arrange for family and child care needs
- You may have lifting restrictions
- You will need additional rest at home
- It is not unusual to be sent home with stitches or staples in place. You need to confirm that arrangements have been made to have them removed following discharge. Please check with surgeon regarding appointment
- Your surgeon will discuss medications for discharge

