

What medications should I stop taking prior to surgery?

Your surgeon will need an accurate list of **ALL** the medication you are taking. This list should include: the name of the medication, dosage (strength), and the time of day that you take it. If you prefer, you may bring the medication containers with you at the time of the pre-operative appointment in the office.

10 DAYS PRIOR TO SURGERY:

Avoid all aspirin products and arthritis medications 10 days prior to surgery. (Aleve, Ibuprofen, Celebrex)

You can continue to take Acetaminophen/Tylenol.

4 DAYS PRIOR TO SURGERY:

If you are taking Coumadin, stop 4 days before surgery.

Medications to start prior to surgery:

1 WEEK PRIOR TO SURGERY:

Dr. Mehserle would like you to start on an iron supplement called *Ferro Sequel*. You can purchase this over the counter at your pharmacy. Take one pill twice a day and continue taking this for 3 weeks after your surgery.

Optional: **"Joint Ventures" Seminar:**

What: Informative seminar explains your surgical experience and what to expect during your hospital stay.

Where: Venice Regional Bayfront Health

When: The Friday before your surgery at 2:00 pm.

When you arrive at the hospital for your pre-operative appointment, they will give you more specific information as to the location of the Joint Venture seminar.

This is an informative seminar and while we encourage you to attend, it is not required.

What time should I arrive at the hospital on my surgery date?

Call the hospital at:

(941) 483-7928

4:00 pm the business day prior to your surgery to find out what time to arrive the morning of your surgery.

You will be asked to arrive at the hospital several hours prior to your scheduled surgery time. Please do not be surprised or anxious about this necessary process.

Important Information for Surgery Patients

Tentative surgery date:

A tentative surgery date has been chosen for your upcoming surgery. Our office will do our best to accommodate your surgery date request. At times it may be necessary to change the surgery date. **If it is necessary to change your surgery date, you will receive a phone call from our office to pick an alternate date.** Please refer to this brochure when jotting down your surgery scheduling details.

Appointment with Dr. Mehserle:

Examination in Dr. Mehserle's office prior to surgery will be on:

_____ at _____

Pre-operative Testing:

Pre-operative testing will be done at Venice Regional Bayfront Health. This appointment will be given to you at your appointment with Dr. Mehserle.

Please report to patient registration 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment. The front desk volunteers will direct you to the pre-operative testing area.

GETTING MEDICAL CLEARANCE FOR YOUR SURGERY:

Please contact your Primary Care Physician's office to let them know you are having surgery and that Dr. Mehserle is requesting medical clearance. If this is not received by 4pm the Friday prior to surgery, your surgery will be cancelled and rescheduled.

Your Primary Care Physician may require you to attend appointments in addition to what your surgeon has scheduled.

PCP: _____

PREPARING YOURSELF FOR SURGERY:

DO NOT eat or drink anything after midnight the night before surgery.

You will receive Hibiclens (skin cleanser) from Venice Regional at your pre-op testing appointment. Shower with it the night before and the morning of your surgery from the neck down. Keep the soap off your face and out of your eyes.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Prior to surgery you will be having a physical examination by your Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Anesthesia:

A general type of anesthesia will be used during your surgery. In most cases you will also have epidural anesthesia (this gives very good pain control after the surgery).

How long is my surgery?

Your surgery takes about 2 hours. The stay in the hospital will be approximately 2 to 4 days.

How long is my recovery time?:

Your recuperation time is about 12 weeks.

What happens when I go home?

Before discharge from the hospital, the Discharge Planning Coordinator will work with you and arrange any home health care, physical therapy, and equipment you may need.

Do I need a walker?

If you have a walker, bring it with you to the hospital (be sure to put your name on it). If you do not have a walker, you will receive one from before hospital discharge. Estimated time of use is 2-3 weeks.

ANTIBIOTICS AFTER SURGERY:

After your surgery you should take antibiotics for all invasive procedures and dental procedures including cleaning.

It is Dr. Mehserle's recommendation that you do this indefinitely. If needed, we can provide a prescription for you.

Please notify your dentist that you have a joint replacement.

William L. Mehserle, MD

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Our billing office will be happy to answer any of your questions concerning billing or insurance.