

## Pre-Admission

Several days prior to your surgery

At First Street Hospital, we take pride in making your experience as comfortable and convenient as possible. The first stage in this process begins when your doctor schedules your surgery.

Prior to your surgery, some laboratory work may be required. This is often necessary to ensure the best possible outcome for your procedure and to avoid any complications. Your physician may use your results to consult with other surgeons or the anesthesia team. It is important that you complete your pre-operative testing no later than three days prior to your surgery date.

In order to make the pre-operative testing as convenient for you as possible, most tests can be completed at our facility. **Once your surgery date is scheduled by your physician, please call our Pre-admission Department at 713-275-1111.** At this time, a pre-admission nurse will ask you a few preliminary, confidential health history questions and arrange a pre-admission appointment, which may include any required pre-operative medical testing. Appointments are available from 8am to 5pm, Monday thru Friday.

Upon arrival for your appointment, you will be asked to fill out pre-admission papers and surgical consent forms. Any lab tests that are required prior to your surgery can be performed at this time.



Arranging for an appointment generally allows you to complete your testing much more quickly, but if your availability is such that you cannot make our appointment times, many pre-operative tests can be completed on a walk-in basis:

Please provide any orders or paper work that your doctor may have given you to the registration personnel.

Please check out with the registration person before leaving the hospital.

## The day of your Surgery

### Arriving at First Street Hospital

We endeavor to adhere to our daily surgery schedule so that your inconvenience and wait time is minimal, but sometimes unexpected events occur that may disrupt this schedule.

In order to accommodate potential disruptions, we ask that you arrive at the hospital at least 2 hours prior to your scheduled surgery time. This allows you to relax and familiarize yourself with the environment, finalize any outstanding paperwork, answer any remaining questions, as well as allowing the operating room staff some opportunity to rearrange scheduling if necessary.

Our main lobby doors open at 7 am, but many patients are asked to arrive at the hospital much earlier to prepare for early morning procedures. Our Emergency Room entrance is always open and is located around the side of the building.

### Visitors

Family members or friends are welcome to stay with you until you are taken to the operating room. They may then wait in the waiting lounge. The surgeon or nurse will come to update your family member(s) or friend(s) on your condition. After your surgery, visitors are most welcome, but please try to limit visitors to two at a time. One person may also stay with you overnight if you wish. There is a sofa bed available in each patient suite that your guest may use to sleep in comfortably.

### Immediately Prior to Surgery

Immediately prior to surgery, you will be brought to a pre-operative suite where a nurse will check your vital signs and answer any questions you may have. Your anesthesiologist may administer an initial medication to help you relax at this point as well. We understand that a surgical procedure can be intimidating and unfamiliar, so we encourage discussion. First Street Hospital is unique in its boutique environment.

Your personal effects will be placed in a secure area once you remove them during your pre-operative procedure. A nurse will itemize your belongings and ask you to confirm the inventory. Your belongings will be given back to you once you are fully awake after surgery.

## Things you should Bring

- Personal toiletries, such as; toothbrush, toothpaste, lotion, powder, deodorant, comb, brush, etc.;
  - Robe and non-slip slippers;
  - Personal care items that you typically require that are unrelated to your surgery, such as canes, walkers, etc.;
- Any personal care equipment that you will need that is related to your surgery will be ordered by your physician and supplied by First Street Hospital.
- Medications that you are currently taking;
  - Loose fitting clothing for when you are discharged home. A button-up shirt or blouse may be preferable to a pullover;
  - Eyeglasses, hearing aids, and dentures; and,
  - Living will, durable power of attorney, or health care power of attorney.

## Things you should not Bring

- Large amounts of cash;
- Valuables of any kind;
- Food that requires refrigeration; or,
- Any large items that require special storage.

