

Dear Patient,

So you have decided to have surgery. As your surgeon, I wanted to pass along some information about the process. We appreciate your trust in us. We also realize that, although we do this every day, this may be your first operation. As such we know that this can be a time of stress, anxiety, fear or any number of emotions. We do our best to alleviate those fears. If there is something that you do not understand, please ask us to explain or elaborate.

PRE-OPERATIVE PERIOD

First, Donna will help you choose an available date for surgery and schedule accordingly. Next you will make an appointment to see your primary care physician and/or cardiologist for a pre-operative evaluation at which time they will decide if your current state of health permits you to undergo surgery and anesthesia safely. This appointment will involve you having blood work, history and physical and possibly an EKG.

Prior to your scheduled surgery date you will return to my office for a final discussion of your surgery and review of the proposed procedure. If you have concerns please compile a list of questions to bring with you. Any other paperwork or disability forms that you need completed may also be brought in at this time and will either be filled out that day, if needed, or mailed once completed.

Certain medications need to be adjusted or discontinued prior to surgery. Our office requires aspirin and/or anti-inflammatory medications (i.e. Naprosyn, Ibuprofen, Aleve, Advil, etc.) be held one week prior to surgery. Other medications that can affect how your blood clots, and that may increase your risk of bleeding (such as Coumadin and Plavix) may also need to be held up to five (5) days prior to surgery. **Before** discontinuing or adjusting any medications you will need to check with your prescribing provider to make sure it is safe to do so. For our patients with diabetes, it is important to talk with your provider regarding recommendations for both oral medications as well as insulin adjustments as you will need to be fasting prior to surgery. Please do not hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns.

You will receive post-operative instructions at your final discussion appointment, along with your prescriptions for pain medications so they can be filled prior to surgery day.

SURGERY DAY

On the day of your surgery you will arrive at the surgery center 1 ½ hours prior to surgery time. From there you will be prepared for surgery and brought to the pre-operative area where I will see you and answer any last minute questions. After the surgery is completed I will discuss the outcome with your family and see you in the recovery area.

I hope this will help answer any questions you may have and ease your mind about the process. Thank you for choosing me and my staff, you are in good hands.

William M. Dutch, DPM