



YOUR
PRE-SURGERY
VISIT TO THE
University of Colorado Hospital
PRE-PROCEDURE SERVICES
CLINIC:

What to Bring and What to Expect

*Located in the Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion at Fitzsimons
1635 Aurora Ct.
Aurora, CO 80045
6th Floor – Room 6701
(720) 848-1251*

What is Pre-Procedure Services?

Pre-Procedure Services (PPS) is a consultative clinic where important information about your health is gathered and recommendations made before your surgery.

Your surgeon will use this information to make sure you are in the best physical condition possible to undergo surgery. Your anesthesiologist will use this information to manage your care and plan for the type of anesthesia you will receive.

The overall goal of this visit is to minimize your risks of developing complications as a result of surgery or anesthesia and to avoid any possible delays or cancellations.

You have been scheduled to have surgery or a procedure that requires anesthesia. Your surgery clinic should already have had you fill out a Health Assessment form as part of your preparation. This has been sent to the PPS clinic for review. Based on the information provided, PPS nurses will decide if and when you will be seen prior to your surgery or procedure. There are two possibilities:

- You will have a visit to Pre-Procedure Services on a different day than your surgery or procedure.
- You will be seen by the staff the same day of your surgery or procedure.

The PPS staff will call you to set up an appointment if necessary. Generally this will happen several days to weeks before the day of surgery.

What should I bring to my appointment with PPS?

- ✓ Insurance co-pay (if any)
- ✓ An updated list of your medications including the medication name and the dose in milligrams, the number of pills you take at a time and how often per day you take them. (If you prefer, you may bring in the original medication containers.) Be sure to include any over-the-counter, vitamins, and herbal medicines.
- ✓ The name and contact information for your primary physicians, and any other specialists you see regularly.

Sometimes incomplete information about ongoing or prior medical problems can prevent surgery from taking place as scheduled.

If you have had any evaluation for a possible stroke, heart disease or lung disease, please bring the following documents directly to the PPS clinic to avoid unnecessary delays in your surgery:

- ✓ Any medical records you feel would be important that document major medical evaluations you have had.
- ✓ Since we will review in detail your past medical and surgical history, you may want to write this information down before your appointment.

If you choose to have your records faxed to us, please call to confirm we received them.

If you have any questions about what to bring to your appointment, please contact:

Pre-Procedure Services

Tel: (720) 848-1251

Fax: (720) 848-1259

What can I expect during my appointment at the PPS Clinic?

During your appointment at the PPS Clinic, a health care provider (nurse practitioner) will:

- Take your medical history
- Perform a physical examination
- Review pertinent tests ordered by your doctor
- Discuss what medications you should or should not take before your surgery
- Order any additional test that may be necessary to make sure it is safe to proceed with surgery
- Perform an EKG and possible basic blood work

If I need additional testing, can this be done the same day as my visit to the PPS Clinic?

All blood testing can be done the same day. However, in some cases, patients require additional testing.

Will you have enough information to know if I am ready for surgery?

In most cases, if your medical records are complete and updated, your visit will supply your PPS provider with enough information to know if you are ready for surgery. However, sometimes an underlying problem will be identified that needs to be addressed before surgery. When this occurs, arrangements will be made for more testing or medications will be prescribed as necessary.

Will my surgery be delayed or postponed for any reason?

Generally, your surgery will not be delayed. However, even a simple problem like a common cold can make surgery less safe. Other times, tests may show that an existing medical condition such as high blood pressure or diabetes is poorly controlled.

If you have a poorly controlled condition, your PPS provider may start treatment to improve your health and check you again in time for surgery. Or, you may be asked to return to your primary care doctor for more treatment. The PPS clinic will inform you and your surgeon about any conditions that require treatment before surgery.

What if my medical condition is very complicated or I am not ready for surgery?

Your PPS provider will recommend the treatment you should receive before your surgery. This information becomes part of your medical record and will be referred to throughout your care at University of Colorado Hospital.

If your PPS provider finds that you are not medically ready for surgery or your medical condition is very complicated, we will discuss our evaluation with your surgeon and the anesthesiologist. After this discussion, a plan for your future surgery will be set.

PLEASE REMEMBER

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the

Pre Procedure Services Clinic
(720) 848-1251