



THE CENTER FOR SURGERY & ADVANCED THERAPEUTICS

ABOUT YOUR SURGERY

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE AN ASC (AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER) OVER A HOSPITAL?

ASCs (Ambulatory Surgery Centers), like the Center for Surgery & Advanced Therapeutics are known for their efficiency of care, quality outcomes and low cost of care in comparison to hospitals. Traditionally, all payers/insurances and patients pay less to an ambulatory surgery center than what they would pay if the same surgery were performed in a hospital. Ambulatory surgery centers are well known for cost efficient care while having to meet the same standards for surgical care as a hospital.

WILL I HAVE MY SURGERY AT THE TIME I AM SCHEDULED?

Your arrival time is the time you should arrive at the surgery center, before your surgery time. Your scheduled surgery time is an estimated time. Cases may take a shorter or longer than time estimated on the schedule.

WHY IS IT SO COLD?

Germs thrive in warm wet environments, so the air is maintained at temperature and humidity levels mandated by national standards to prevent the growth of bacteria. Your safety and comfort are important to us, we have warm blankets do not hesitate to let us know if you are cold.

WHY DO I HAVE TO COME HOURS BEFORE MY SURGERY?

Surgery may run ahead of schedule and the next patient needs to be ready for their procedure. There are assessments that need to be done in advance of your surgery by anesthesiologists, your surgeon, and nurses to insure your safety before you are brought to the operating room. Lastly, surgery is unpredictable, the time for surgery is estimated, but cannot be guaranteed in advance, so additional time is allowed to compensate for this variation.

WHY AM I ASKED THE SAME QUESTIONS REPEATEDLY, LIKE MY NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH?

We perform multiple safety checks to insure that we are performing the correct procedure on the correct patient that are important component of your medical care. This three-step process includes: (1) conducting a pre-procedure verification process to confirm the correct patient, the correct procedure and the correct site; (2) marking the procedure site prior to surgery if possible; and (3) conducting a time-out before starting the procedure to confirm correct patient, procedure, and site.

WHY CAN I NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO EAT OR DRINK 8 HOURS BEFORE MY PROCEDURE?

When you are put to sleep, the muscles and valves in your upper digestive system relax, and if there is food/liquids in your stomach you can have reflux and accidentally inhale the contents into your lungs. Also, some of the medications given during surgery may induce vomiting. Normally your airway protects itself from inhaling food and liquid, but that part of your body is asleep during surgery. The risk of vomiting during your surgery is greatly reduced if there is no food or drink in your stomach. Vomiting during surgery can cause serious complications.

HOW LONG WILL I BE IN THE CENTER AFTER MY PROCEDURE (RECOVERY PERIOD)?

Recovery periods vary from person to person and from procedure to procedure due to length of each surgery. A rule of thumb is that you can commonly anticipate that longer procedures will require longer recovery periods and shorter procedures require shorter recovery periods.



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MAY MY FAMILY ACCOMPANY ME?

One family member per patient may remain with you in the preoperative area, until the time of your procedure. At that time, we ask that family members remain in the waiting room until the procedure is complete. When you return to the recovery room and awaken, your family may once again join you.

WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS BEFORE OR AFTER MY SURGERY?

Questions related to surgery itself or preparation should be directed to the surgery center at (832)-823-5375. Specific questions related to your specific case or problems afterward should be directed to the surgeon's office. In the case of an emergency call the physician office for the on-call physician or report directly to the emergency room. You are always welcome to call the center in a non-emergent situation.

WHY DO I HAVE TO PAY MY DEDUCTIBLE AND CO-INSURANCE AT THE TIME OF MY PROCEDURE?

The policy of this center, as with many health care facilities across the nation is that patients pay their portion of co-insurance and any remaining deductible at the time of the procedure. This helps to keep the collection prices down, thus the cost of doing business at a minimum. Traditionally, all payers/insurances and self-pay patients pay less to an ambulatory surgery center than they pay to hospitals. Ambulatory surgery centers are well known for cost efficient care. You will save money by having surgery in an ASC versus a hospital.

WHY IS THE CHARGE SUCH A LARGE AMOUNT ON THE EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS (EOB)?

The Charge is not what you, or the insurer pay, it is an estimation of the price for your surgery based on the cost to provide the surgery before the contracted allowable amount is applied. The total amount represents the facility fee which is 100% of the charges, and the contracted rate is the reduced fee that you will see on the EOB. Third party payers, and Medicare pay at a negotiated allowable rate. An Explanation of Benefits (EOB) is the document that health insurance companies send to communicate what they paid for services provided.

WHO DO I CALL REGARDING ANESTHESIA CHARGES?

It is our anesthesia provider's goal to minimize the confusion and hassle associated with resolving a patient's financial obligations. Our anesthesia providers participate in most managed care plans in order to minimize the financial burden on their patients. Please speak with our front desk staff to connect you with anesthesia billing contact.

WHY AM I RECEIVING MULTIPLE BILLS?

The Center for Surgery & Advanced Therapeutics fee is considered a facility fee. The surgeon, anesthesiologist, and pathologist (If biopsy is taken), are all billed separately from the surgery center and are considered professional fees.

DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Physicians are engaged in the oversight of quality improvement and cost containment at the Surgery Center and your physician may have an investment interest in the facility and therefore will receive, directly or indirectly, remuneration (Financial Benefit) as a result of such referral. This information is being provided to help you make an informed decision about your health care. You have the option of obtaining health care ordered by your physician at a different facility other than this Facility.

You will not be treated differently by your physician or the Facility if you choose to use a different facility.