



## YOUR ANESTHESIA EXPERIENCE

Your safety is our number one priority. Because of this concern **we only use Board Certified M.D. Anesthesiologists** for any case requiring general anesthesia. You will also have preoperative testing, including blood work, (and possibly other tests such as a chest x-ray or EKG) to ensure that your current health does not put you at any additional unnecessary risk while under anesthesia.

**Important:** Please note that you must **not** have anything to eat or drink after midnight prior to your surgery. Brushing your teeth the morning of surgery is fine. If you normally take important medications in the morning, we will let you know if it is ok to take them with a sip of water. This restriction on food and water is done for your safety. By keeping your stomach empty, we reduce the risk that food or fluid will enter the lungs during anesthesia. If you eat or drink after midnight, we may be forced to cancel your surgery.

Prior to your surgery, your anesthesiologist will have questions for you regarding your health, height, weight and past anesthesia experiences. Complete and honest answers are essential in order to assist your anesthesiologist in planning and administering the safest level of anesthetic possible. All information is completely confidential, so in the interest of your safety, please answer each question to the best of your ability.

During and after your anesthesia, you will be monitored very closely. Generally, you will remain in the post-anesthesia recovery area for an hour. Often, you will be given additional medications to keep you comfortable. Once you are awake and aware, you may be released to a responsible adult to go home or (depending on the surgery) you will be transferred to a pre-scheduled overnight recovery suite.

Please follow the post-operative instructions closely regarding supervision requirements and activity restrictions. Drinking lots of fluids will help rid your body of the medications used for anesthesia more quickly.