



PREOPERATIVE CLEARANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS

Because of some ongoing medical conditions and/or your age, the anesthesiologist requires preoperative medical clearance for your surgery. Although this surgery is low risk, it is safer to perform the surgery once the anesthesiologist knows a little more about your medical history. This may include a chest x-ray, EKG, and various blood testing. It also may include letters required from various physicians including your primary care physician, cardiologist, and/or other primary care specialists.

In order coordinate everything for your surgery in a timely manner, we require that you obtain all of the information that is needed from the various providers. This process can be started at any time after receiving your surgical packet. The only restriction is that any blood testing must be done **NO MORE than 30 days** prior to surgery. Any blood tests done more than 30 days prior to surgery will have to be repeated and insurance may not cover multiple blood tests done within such a short time. We also may require that you follow up with our office to make sure that all clearance information and results have been received by our office **NO LESS THAN TWO WEEKS** prior to your scheduled surgery. This is necessary in order for our staff to review the information and make sure no further testing is required. If this information is not received and available **TWO WEEKS** prior to your scheduled surgery, you will receive a call from my staff advising you that we have not received the required information and that your surgery may have to be rescheduled. Unfortunately, due to the number of patients waiting to be added to our surgery schedule, this is not negotiable. This also allows us time to contact other patients waiting for surgery and give them adequate notice to make arrangements and for us to coordinate their surgery.

Please be advised that if you do not obtain all of the information requested and your scheduled surgery date is cancelled in order to accommodate another patient, it may take several weeks and/or months to reschedule your surgery. Therefore we strongly recommend that you facilitate this by obtaining the information as requested. ***In addition, if you cancel surgery within 1 week of the scheduled time, you may incur a \$250 cancellation fee, which will not be covered by your insurance.***

Please give your clearing physician the **instruction form and clearance memo**. The MEMO form must be completed and returned to us with any test and exam results or your surgery cannot be scheduled.