

## PLEASE READ BEFORE CALLING TO SCHEDULE

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### ***THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE CALLING TO SCHEDULE SURGERY***

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The doctor has discussed a surgical procedure with you today. We realize there are a lot of things to consider that will require some planning on your part. This information is designed to help take some of the mystery out of the surgery experience! Please read over this packet before calling to schedule.

When you do call to schedule, there will be an abundance of information given to you, we recommend the following prior to calling the surgery scheduler:

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL FROM YOUR CAR!!** The surgery schedulers need your undivided attention.

Try to be in a location where you will have privacy. You will be asked questions regarding your health history, and there may be some questions that you don't not want others to hear.

Please allow approximately 20-30 minutes on the phone to go through the scheduling process with the surgery scheduler, possibly longer depending on the surgical procedure and questions you may have. Please call when you have enough time to be on the phone and don't need to rush.

Have pen and paper to take notes. The schedulers do not always send information in written format.

Have your calendar available and an approximate date in mind. It helps to have a few different dates available because we not only have to ensure the doctors availability, but also that the facility is available. The further out you schedule, the more options you will have and the more time you will have to prepare. **At this time, we are only scheduling the date of the surgery.** The exact time for each procedure is not set until just a few days prior to the surgery date. Surgery times are determined by many factors, including the physical condition of each patient, the body part and the procedure.

You will need to see your Primary Care Physician for a pre-op physical exam before your surgery. This physical is only valid for 30 days, so do not schedule this appointment until you have a surgery date. The schedulers will determine what, if any testing is needed and will fax the information to your PCP's office. Two to three weeks before your surgery is an appropriate timeframe to make your pre-op physical appointment.