



Pre-Operative & Surgery Information

Updated February 22, 2021

Our first priority is always the health and safety of our patients, your families and our staff. We understand that the current environment has created unexpected challenges for you and for us. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we seek to deliver safe, quality care to you and your loved ones. In order to do so, there are some guidelines that we ask you to follow.

On the day of arrival at the hospital

Patients should bring a **mask, cell phone & charger**, and the **contact number for their support person/driver**. In addition to **wearing a face covering** (mask, bandana, etc.), **temperatures will be checked** and social distancing will be maintained.

Please **drop off the patient** at the entrance in front of the facility where the surgery is scheduled:

- Huntsville Hospital (Main) on Gallatin Street & Sivley Road
- Women & Children's Hospital on Governors Drive at California Street
- Governors Medical Tower on Gallatin Street on the 2nd floor of the GMT parking garage

One support person will be allowed to accompany the patient to the pre-op area, except for open heart and thoracic surgery patients. Once the patient is taken to surgery, the support person will be asked to return to their car. Staff will contact the support person for any changes in the surgery schedule. The Operating Room staff will contact the support person at the start of surgery and with hourly updates. After the completion of the surgery, **your surgeon will communicate with the contact person.**

As discharge nears, a member of our hospital staff will contact the support person/driver. Pick up will be at the front of the facility where patient was dropped off. **If the patient is to be admitted**, they will need to provide a **password** to the pre-op nurse so that communication can take place between the admitting unit and the patient's family members. This password will be used as an identification tool throughout the patient's stay and should be shared with whomever the patient would like information/updates to be communicated. Please ensure family/caretakers have the password before arrival.

Endoscopy

At this time, we ask that you continue to drop off the patient at the front entrance of the facility. The support person should remain in their vehicle. Your physician will communicate with the contact person via telephone. Pickup will be at the front of facility where the patient was dropped off.

