

## Preoperative Instructions

How to correctly prepare for surgery

### Preoperative arrangements

Do you have someone to help you at home when you return from surgery? These arrangements should be made prior to treatment. If you are unsure what your restrictions might be, please ask. You may need help with shopping, housework, cooking, errands, driving, or returning to the doctor's office.

### Preoperative medical instructions

Notify your surgeon if you experience any significant change in your health status, including but not limited to, a cold, influenza, a bladder infection, diarrhea, or other infection before surgery. Unless specifically instructed otherwise by your surgeon or anesthesiologist, please observe the following guidelines for taking your medicines before surgery:

#### One week prior to surgery:

Stop all aspirin and all medicines containing aspirin (e.g., Anacin, Excedrin, PeptoBismol). Read labels for any cold or pain medicine bottles to check if aspirin (or salicylate) is contained in the medication.

#### Three days prior to surgery:

Stop all nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications (e.g., etodolac [Lodine], fenoprofen [Nalfon], ibuprofen [Advil, Motrin, Nuprin], ketorolac [Toradol], naproxen [Aleve], meclizolam [Meclizolam], mefenamic acid [Ponstel], naproxen [Anaprox, Naprosyn]).

#### On the morning of your surgery:

Do not take digitalis medicines (e.g., Crystodigin, Digoxin, Lanoxin). Do not take oral antidiabetic medicines (e.g., chlorpropamide [Diabinese], glyburide [DiaBeta, Gly-nase, Micronase], glypizide [Glucotrol], tolazamide [Tolinase], tolbutamide [Orinase]) Remove nicotine patches (Nicoderm.) Do take one-half dose of your usual morning of insulin.

Do not take your morning insulin dose if you are driving a great distance the morning of surgery or if your surgery is scheduled for the afternoon.

Do take, with a small sip of water, all of your other usual morning doses of regularly prescribed medicines, including heart and blood pressure medicine. Use your asthma inhalers and bring them with you to the hospital.

### Preoperative diet instructions

Unless specifically instructed otherwise by your surgeon or anesthesiologist, patients of all ages must observe the following diet restrictions before surgery:

#### Eight hours before the scheduled start of surgery:

Do not take anything by mouth except for your usual medicines. Follow the preoperative medication instructions above. Except for your usual medicines, do not take anything by mouth for eight hours if you are pregnant, morbidly obese, or diagnosed with diabetes, renal failure, or stomach acid reflux with heartburn.

#### Day of surgery instructions:

- 1 Take your medicines as instructed above with a sip of water.
- 2 You may brush your teeth; rinse your mouth, but do not swallow the water.
- 3 Leave all jewelry (including wedding ring) and valuables (including money and credit cards) at home.
- 4 If you wear contact lenses, glasses or hearing aids, please bring a case or container and solution for contacts, to protect them while you are in surgery.
- 5 Wear a minimal amount of makeup and no mascara. Please remove nail polish, and/or artificial or acrylic nails from both index fingers.
- 6 Please bring a copy of your current medical problem list from your primary care physician (family medicine/internist).
- 7 Minors (anyone less than 18 years old) must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to sign the operative consent form.
- 8 Prior to surgery, the anesthesiologist will discuss with you the anesthetic most appropriate for your medical condition and procedure.
- 9 After discharge, you will need to be escorted/driven home by a responsible adult. You may take a taxi or shuttle if accompanied by a responsible adult who can stay with you after the driver departs.



RETINA INSTITUTE

Patient Care

---

**Retina Institute of Hawaii**

Yacht Harbor Professional Center  
1620 Ala Moana Blvd., #500  
Honolulu, HI 96815

T (808) 955-0255

F (808) 955-4155

retinahawaii.com

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 immediately.  
For post surgery questions or concerns call our office at (808) 955-0255.