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GENERAL PREOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Patient **MUST HAVE** pre-op labs, EKG, & Chest X-ray done **no later than 1 week** prior to surgery.
2. **If having labs done elsewhere, Results MUST be faxed to the office as soon as possible to (210) 403-3166.**
3. **No** eating, drinking or smoking **after midnight** prior to surgery.
4. Patients may take physician prescribed medications the AM prior to surgery; with a **SMALL SIP** of water **EXCEPT** for diabetic medications and blood thinners.
5. Patients must refrain from taking any type of blood thinners **1 week prior to surgery**, examples are Coumadin, Plavix, Motrin, Aspirin, Multi-Vitamin, Vitamin E, St. John's Wart, Fish Oil, Aleve, & Excedrin.
6. If on Plavix or Coumadin please discuss with your PCP prior to stopping medications.

Patients must arrive at hospital or ambulatory surgery center at least **1 hour prior** to surgery time for preparation for surgery.

A licensed driver must accompany **EVERY** patient. Patients will not be released to drive home after surgery, and hospital policy will not allow patients to be driven home by a cab service.

If your child is having surgery, please be sure at least one parent remains in the assigned waiting area, in case a parent is needed promptly.

Wear loose fitting clothing. (Make it easier to dress yourself after surgery).

Bring a copy of your ID/Driver's License and health insurance card.

If you need to cancel your surgery for any reason we ask that you give at least 1 week notice to avoid a \$50 cancellation fee. Please call the office as soon as possible at (120) 647-3838.

After surgery if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact our office Monday – Thursday from 8 am – 5 pm and Friday from 8 am – 3 pm. If you need assistance after hours please call the answering service, they can assist in reaching a physician.

Thank you,
Christine Gilliam, M.D.