



# About Your Surgical Procedure

## Local Anesthesia

---

**Definitions:**

**Anesthesia:** The loss of feeling or sensation as a result of drugs or gases.

“Local” anesthesia numbs only a specified area.

“General” anesthesia causes loss of consciousness (puts you to sleep).

You have been scheduled for a surgical procedure at the Surgery Center in the East Ann Arbor Medical Campus. The following information will help you prepare for your procedure. Please contact us if you have further questions or concerns.

**Where to Come for the Procedure:**

The procedure area is located in the East Ann Arbor Health Center on Plymouth Road. Our surgical scheduler will work with you to make the procedure scheduling as smooth, uncomplicated and quick as possible. She will contact you within 72 hours of your clinic visit with your appointment date and location. If you need to contact the surgery scheduler, they can be reached at (734) 936-6000. **(Please allow at least 72 hours for this to be done before contacting her).**

Plan on reporting to the East Ann Arbor Surgical Center Check-in area **45 minutes** before your scheduled surgery time.

**Length of Procedure:**

The entire procedure generally takes about one hour. Once the procedure has been completed you will be sent home.

Procedures that are done in the procedure room generally require only a “local” anesthetic. You will be awake during the procedure.

## **Instructions:**

### **Before the Procedure:**

- Your clinic nurse will review all necessary pre-operative instructions with you. You will receive a copy of these instructions for review at home.
- Please call us at (734) 232-3053 **two business** days prior to your surgery date, between the hours of 7:30-9:30am (Note, this refers to business days, the procedure room is not open on weekends and holidays).
- **MEDICATIONS:** You should avoid taking aspirin containing medications as well as nonsteroidal (anti-inflammatory) medications for one week prior to surgery. Examples of nonsteroidal (anti-inflammatory) medications include ibuprofen, Advil<sup>®</sup>, Motrin<sup>®</sup>, Aleve<sup>®</sup> and Nuprin<sup>®</sup>. Please notify your surgeon prior to surgery if you are taking Coumadin, other blood thinning medications, or are diabetic. You should review all other medications with the preoperative nurse when you call the day before your surgery.
- Shower or bathe on the day of the procedure, please use an antibacterial soap or body wash.
- You should eat a light meal before the procedure. Do **not skip meals**. You will receive only a “local” anesthetic, therefore you do not need to fast before the procedure.

- You will need to arrange for someone to drive you home after the procedure.
- You may wish to bring some money with you so that you can fill any medication prescriptions you may receive.
- It is a good idea to wear comfortable clothing to the procedure.

**After the Procedure:**

- The dressing placed over the incision may be removed after 48 hours. This will be clarified the day of surgery with your discharge papers. While the dressing is in place, it must stay clean and dry.
- You will be able to return home after the procedure. Your procedure may require you to restrict certain activities afterward. Your doctors/nurses will review this with you before the procedure and again after.
- The doctor may write a prescription for pain medication for any discomfort you may have.

**Results of the Procedure:**

The pathology results will be made available to your physician within 5-7 business days. You should contact the office of your surgeon to obtain the results or if you have any questions regarding test results.

**Problems You May Encounter:**

Although complications are rare, you should notify your health care team of any new or unusual symptoms.

**Notify the surgical nurses (Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm) at (734) 936-6000 if you develop any of the following:**

- a temperature higher than 101 degrees Fahrenheit
- bleeding that will not stop
- swelling of the area
- severe bruising
- unusual or severe pain not relieved by your pain medication
- any new or unusual symptoms that concern you

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by the University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by UMHS and for which UMHS does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Author: A. Chang, MD  
Reviewers: S. Straub, RN

Patient Education by [University of Michigan Health System](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License](#).  
Document # 00175. Last Revised 1/2015