Please carefully review this important information from our Surgical Services about your before and after surgery care.

Thank you.

Call us with your surgery questions:
Surgery Center Front Desk... 575/538-4698
Pre-Op Assessment .............. 575/538-4802

Payment Assistance
Patient Financial Services....... 575/574-4989
or toll free 866/574-4989

Your surgery is scheduled for:

Patient Name

Date

Time*

*The Surgery Center will notify you of time.

Surgical Center of the Southwest
575/538-4699 • fax 575/538-4095
www.grmc.org

What you need to know – Before Surgery
Before Surgery

Pre-operative (Pre-op) Assessment Phone Call

Expect a phone call from our Pre-op Assessment nurse 3-7 days prior to your day of surgery. If by 2 p.m. on the day before your scheduled surgery you have not received that assessment phone please contact us at (575) 538-4698 between 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If your availability is restricted, you can schedule a specific date and time for us to contact you regarding your Pre-op Assessment call. We will try to meet your needs whenever possible depending on our work volume and time constraints.

During the call, the Pre-op Assessment nurse will review your medical history with you. This review will include questions regarding your current health, allergies, past health problems and any previous surgeries.

The nurse will also ask for a list of any medications you are taking (prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal/homeopathic). Bring a list of your current medications with you on your day of surgery.

The nurse will try to answer any questions you may have about your surgery. If you have questions they are unable to answer, you will be referred to the right person. The nurse will also review your pre-operative instructions and give you information on where to park and check in on the day of surgery.

If your health condition changes before surgery, please notify your physician. Examples of health changes include a cold, sore throat, flu, persistent cough, fever, vomiting or diarrhea. We will also ask about your current skin condition including any cuts, abrasions or open sores.

General Pre-operative Instructions

• Surgery staff will call the day before surgery to inform you of what time you should arrive on your surgery day.
• Bathe or shower the night before surgery and again on the morning of surgery. Use a clean washcloth and towel each time and dress in clean clothing. This will help reduce your chance of developing a surgical site infection.
• Unless instructed differently, do not eat or drink anything after midnight, the night before surgery. This includes candy, water, coffee, and gum. Do not use tobacco products or consume alcohol for at least 24-hours prior to your surgery.
• Please ask your doctor if you should take any of your routine medications prior to surgery, such as those for heart, asthma, seizure or blood pressure conditions. If you have been instructed to take any medications before surgery do so with a small sip of water.
• Leave your jewelry and valuables at home.

Legal Information

If you have appointed someone to be your Durable Power of Attorney, you must bring the paperwork with you that proves this person may act as your spokesperson.
Day of Surgery
On the day of your surgery check-in at the Surgery Center front desk. Enter through the Surgery Center/Cancer Center entrance and go upstairs (or use the elevator) to the surgery desk.

Please bring your:
• Insurance card
• Photo ID
• List of medications
• Remove and leave all of your jewelry at home.

Parking
The Surgery Center of the Southwest is located at the northwest corner of the Gila Regional Medical Center campus. Parking is close to the Surgery Center entrance, as seen on the map.

After Surgery
If your surgeon has scheduled you as an outpatient for your surgical procedure it means that your surgeon plans on discharging you to recover in the comfort of your own home after your surgery has been completed.

It is important that you have someone drive you home after surgery and that a responsible individual remains with you for the first 24-hours.

You should plan to rest at home for the remainder of the day. Do not drive, make critical decisions, operate machinery or drink alcohol for at least 24-hours after surgery especially if you received any anesthesia.

Most people remain in the recovery area for about an hour after their surgery is done. We suggest that your driver and caregiver, if possible, remain in the surgical waiting area the entire time. If they must leave briefly, please have them inform the surgery front desk staff of when they will be returning and how they can be contacted.

We also need your best phone contact information prior to your leaving because a nurse will be calling you after your surgery to check on how you are doing and to answer any questions regarding your surgery you may have.

1313 E. 32nd Street, Silver City, NM 88061
Most surgical procedures are covered by medical insurance. Please contact the Gila Regional Medical Center Patient Financial Services at (575) 574-4989. We have staff that can review your personal situation and assist you with possible options for meeting your financial obligation.

Waiting Room Reminders

- Please minimize the number of people waiting for you and reinforce that they need to be respectful of the other people waiting.
- We discourage children from coming to the Surgery Center except for those having surgery. We do not have a play center and during a long wait it is difficult for most children to play quietly with minimal activity while keeping their voices low.

On occasions when children accompany a surgical patient, we ask you to ensure that they act appropriately while in the waiting area. Do not leave children unattended, waiting room staff will not supervise or take responsibility for unsupervised children.

My Medical Records

Enroll in Gila Regional’s patient portal and experience easy, secure access to your personal health information. All of the up-to-date information in My Medical Records comes from your GRMC Electronic Health Record.

My Medical Records allows you to:

- View laboratory results and radiology reports
- Track your visit history
- Revisit your discharge instructions
- Access Health Summaries

Visit Gila Regional Health Information Management Department or contact us at 575-574-4900 to enroll.

Financial Information

Most surgical procedures are covered by medical insurance. Please contact the Gila Regional Medical Center Patient Financial Services at (575) 574-4989. We have staff that can review your personal situation and assist you with possible options for meeting your financial obligation.