Preparing for Your Procedure or Surgery

Early planning is the key for a successful surgery and to meet your needs at home. We urge you to start planning today by following the information in this booklet.*

* Your doctor may adjust these instructions to meet your needs.
### Before Your Procedure or Surgery
- Days / weeks before procedure or surgery
- Evening before procedure or surgery

### Day of: Before Your Procedure or Surgery
- Between midnight and your check-in time
- Before you leave home
- What to bring
- Questions about pre-admit Instructions
- Once you arrive at the facility
- After your procedure or surgery

### Day of: After Your Procedure or Surgery
- Pain control
- Hospital care for overnight patients
- Activity
- Treatments and medications
- You are ready to leave the hospital when ...

### At Home
- Diet
- Activity
- Pain medicine
- Upset stomach/constipation
- Wound care
- When to call your doctor

### Directions
- Central Washington Hospital & Clinics
- Wenatchee Valley Hospital & Clinics
**BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE OR SURGERY**

The Days / Weeks Before

- **Call your insurance company** right away to tell them that you are having surgery. Our staff will also be happy to assist you with this.

- **Plan for a ride home.** You must have a responsible adult drive you home due to the medications given for your procedure or surgery.

  - If traveling home by taxi or public bus; please arrange for a responsible adult to accompany you.

  - Someone should stay with you or check on you for at least 24 hours after going home.

- Follow your physicians instructions in regards to anti-inflammatory medications such as: Aspirin, Celecoxib, Diclofenac Sodium, Ibuprofen, Indomethacin, Meloxicam, Nabumetone, Naproxen, Piroxicam.

- Discontinue herbal supplements as soon as you know you are having surgery; ideally, 7 days prior to your surgery.

- If taking any blood thinners; follow your physician’s instructions on whether to continue to take or to hold this medicine.
The Evening Before

• **A nurse will call you between 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.** the day before your procedure/surgery to confirm your appointment time, where to check-in, and answer any questions you may have.

• Follow bowel preparation instructions, if ordered by your physician.

• Take a shower or bath on the day of your surgery.

• **DO NOT shave surgery site.** The hospital has special clippers to remove hair if needed.

• If you become ill or have any rashes, cuts or scrapes on or near your surgery site, please call your physician.
For your safety, your stomach must be empty for your surgery. If you eat or drink before your procedure, it may have to be postponed or rescheduled.

Dietary Restrictions:

Fasting Guidelines for 3 years of age to Adult:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May Have</th>
<th>Time prior to Check-In</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear Liquids</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crackers or dry toast</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fasting Guidelines for children under 3 years of age:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May Have</th>
<th>Time prior to Check-In</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear Liquids</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast Milk</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Formula</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Milk</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crackers or dry toast</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Clear Liquids Include: water, 7-Up, apple juice, Gatorade, tea or black coffee (sugar is OK, but NO creamer or milk)
- No gum, mints, hard candy or chewing tobacco
- Laboring women may have water or Gatorade every 4 hours; follow adult guidelines if a C-Section is likely
Before You Leave Home

- **Remember not to eat or drink as instructed.** You can take your medications with a sip of water.

- **DIABETIC Patients:** Your insulin or other blood sugar medication dosages may be adjusted before your procedure or surgery because you will not be eating your usual diet. Please follow your physician’s instructions closely. Your blood sugar level will be checked and monitored when you arrive.

- Wear loose, comfortable clothes, slip-on or easy to get on shoes and little or no makeup.

- **Leave all jewelry and valuables at home.**

- Do not apply dental adhesives.

What to Bring

- Copy of Advance Directive, Living Will or Durable Power of Attorney, if you have one.

- Write down the name and phone number of someone we may call while you are in the hospital to help with any unexpected needs.

- A list of all your medicines, including doses and time when medication was last taken.

- CPAP or BiPAP machine, if you use one.

- Toys, books or videos for child.

- Case and solution for glasses or contact lenses.

- Hearing aides.

- If staying overnight, you may bring a robe and personal items. Bring slippers with non-skid soles or comfortable walking shoes.

- Health insurance/prescription cards/co-pay.
Questions?

If you have questions or concerns about pre-admit instructions, please call:

**Central Washington Hospital & Clinics**
*Pre-Admit* | 509.662.1511 x: 6246

**Wenatchee Valley Hospital & Clinics**
*Pre-Admit* | 509.663.8711 x: 5584
Once You Arrive at the Facility

- Check-in at the reception desk.
- The nursing staff will review your health history with you and prepare you for your procedure or surgery.
- Your surgical site may be cleaned and hair clipped by staff.
- The physician will review your procedure or surgery with you and mark the surgical site if indicated.
- The anesthesiologist will also review your health history and discuss anesthetic options and medications with you.
After Your Procedure or Surgery

• Medications may be ordered to treat anxiety, infection, pain and nausea.

• Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Parents or legal guardian of children under age 18 must remain at the hospital until the child is discharged to home.

• One or two family members may sit with you while you are waiting for surgery.

• Your physician will talk to family/friends (if present) in the waiting room. Please ask them to be available in person or by telephone.

• You may be able to eat and drink after surgery, depending on the type of surgery you had done.

• Vital signs and surgical site are checked.

• You may be asked to cough and breathe deeply.

• Simple foot-leg exercises help your blood flow. Compression stockings or foot pulsers may be used.

• You may have a urinary catheter to help you urinate.
Good pain control won't take away 100% of your pain, but it will control your pain enough so you can cough, take deep breaths, and get in and out of bed.

- Tell your nurse if you feel pain, or have an upset stomach. There are many medicines available to help you feel better.

Your nurses will help with other ways to make you feel comfortable.

- Pain is personal. The amount or type of pain you feel may not be the same as others feel. You can help the doctors and nurses “measure” your pain by using a 0 – 10 Pain Rating Scale. Imagine zero is no pain and 10 is the worst pain you can think of or use a description of the pain you are having such as slight, moderate or severe. Children or older people may find the Faces Pain Scale helpful.

Fewer and fewer people are admitted to hospitals today. Modern medicine makes it possible for people to return home faster than ever before.
If you are staying in the hospital, it is because your surgery requires special needs that cannot be met at home.

Your hospital staff will work hard to get you home. Nursing staff, Physical Occupational Therapy, and Social Services are available to discuss any discharge and home care needs that you might have.

If you need more help after surgery than your family/friends can provide, contact:

**Central Washington Hospital & Clinics**  
Care Management Department  
509.662.1511 x: 2344

**Wenatchee Valley Hospital & Clinics**  
Social Services Department  
509.663.8711 x: 5983

**Activity**

- After your surgery it is important to begin normal activities as soon as possible to improve your recovery.

- Coughing and deep breathing, and moving your legs are activities you can do while in bed.

- You may notice that moving around can be uncomfortable. It is normal to have some discomfort at rest and with activity. You and your nurse will work out a pain control plan.

- The nursing staff will assist you with walking.
Treatments & Medications

• Vital signs will be checked throughout your stay.

• Your nurse will teach you about wound care, including when it is OK to bathe or shower.

• Diet as recommended by your physician.

• IV (intravenous catheter) will be removed when you are able to eat and drink.

• Urinary catheter may be removed. The nurses will check to see if you can urinate without the catheter. You may go home with the urinary catheter in place.

• Pain pills or shots are given as needed.

• You may have a PCA (Patient Controlled Analgesia) IV Pump for pain medicine. It is important that only you, the patient, control the medication, not your family. This will prevent you from receiving more medication than you need.

• Ask your physician or nurse about when to resume taking your usual medicines, hormones, and/or supplements.

You Are Ready to Leave the Hospital When:

• You are able to drink some fluids to the level approved by your physician.

• Pain medicine keeps your pain under control.

• You are able to walk.

• Discharge Instructions have been reviewed with you and another responsible adult.
Diet

• Continue with clear fluids such as water, 7-Up, apple juice, Gatorade and tea. Progress your diet gradually to light foods and slowly return to your normal diet.

• Drink 8 glasses of fluids a day.

Activity

• Move around more each day.

• Do not drive if you are taking prescription pain medicine.

• Follow your physician’s instructions on when it is OK to resume strenuous activity and driving.

Pain Medicines

• You may notice that moving around can be uncomfortable. It is normal to have some discomfort at rest and with activity. You and your nurse will work out a pain control plan.

• Add prescription pain pills when ibuprofen or acetaminophen is not enough to control pain as directed by your doctor.

• Continue to ice and elevate to help with comfort, if appropriate.
Upset Stomach / Constipation

• Prescription pain pills may cause constipation, nausea, and vomiting. If this occurs, consider taking over-the-counter pain medication pills and limit the use of prescription medications.

• You may use an over-the-counter laxative or a stool softener, unless told otherwise.

• Eat high fiber foods, like bran and fruits / vegetables. If nausea / vomiting continue, please contact your physician.

Wound Care

• Leave tape / tape strips on until they fall off. If tape strips are still there after two weeks, you can remove them.

• Please follow your surgeon’s instructions regarding showering.
Call Your Doctor If You Have:

- Nausea, vomiting or pain that won’t go away
- Chills and/or a fever over 101°
- Wound is red, swollen, draining, open, or more painful
- Itching, or break out in rash or hives
- Inability to urinate

- **Chest pain or shortness of breath - Please Call 911**
DIRECTIONS TO: CENTRAL WASHINGTON HOSPITAL & CLINICS

From the South:

• Cross the George P. Sellar Bridge.
• Turn left on Mission at traffic signal.
• Go approximately 3 blocks.
• Turn right on Crawford St.
• Go approximately 10 blocks.
• Turn right on Fuller St., then left into hospital entrance drive.
• Drive around the far side of the hospital (west side).
• There is a designated parking area for patients entering Surgery & Procedures Entrance.
• Enter the “green wall” entrance and report to Admitting desk.

From the North:

• Travel south on Wenatchee Ave. until the two right-hand lanes angle right at Miller Street (near ShopKo and Denny’s Restaurant).
• Angle right on Miller St. (in front of the Valley North Mall).
• Continue south on Miller St., approximately 2.2 miles, past Wenatchee High School and 4 way stop intersection.
• Turn left into parking lot at Central Washington Hospital. There is designated parking area for patients entering Surgery & Procedures Entrance.
• Enter the “green wall” entrance and report to Admitting desk.
DIRECTIONS TO:
WENATCHEE VALLEY HOSPITAL & CLINICS

From the South:
- Cross the George P. Sellar Bridge
- Turn right on Mission.
- Travel north on Mission to Ninth Street (approximately 2 miles).
- Turn left on Ninth Street.
- Turn left on Chelan (next street) and move into right lane.
- Turn right into Wenatchee Valley Hospital & Clinics parking lot just past intersection of Ninth and Chelan Ave.
- Use the Wenatchee Valley Hospital entrance. Take the elevator to the 2nd floor and the reception area.

From the North:
- Travel south on Wenatchee Ave. until the two right-hand lanes angle right at Miller Street (near ShopKo and Denny’s Restaurant).
- Angle right on Miller St. and get in the left lane.
- At the second light stay in the middle lane and turn left on Chelan Ave.
- Get in the right lane.
- After you cross Ninth St. turn right into the Wenatchee Valley Clinic parking lot.
- Use the Wenatchee Valley Hospital entrance. Take the elevator to the 2nd floor and the reception area.
Wenatchee Valley Hospital & Clinics
820 N. Chelan Ave.

- Physical Therapy & Spine Clinic
  509.663.8711
- Sleep Center
  509.663.8711
- Pediatrics Building
  509.665.5851
- Mares Building
  509.663.8711
- Smith Building
  509.663.8711
- Haug Building
  509.663.8711
- Behavioral Health Building
  509.667.3650
We are dedicated to improving our patients’ health by providing safe, high-quality care in a compassionate and cost-effective manner.