

Questions for your Surgeon

Asking these questions can help you understand the procedure better, prepare adequately, and make informed decisions about your surgery. Feel free to print the questions and bring them with you. Highlight the questions that pertain to you for your upcoming appointment and/or surgery.

About the Procedure

What is the purpose of the surgery?

What specific procedure will be performed?

How is this surgery typically performed?

Is there more than one way to perform this surgery? Is one better than the other? Why?

Are there any pamphlets or videos available to have or borrow to explain it to my family?

What are the potential benefits from this surgery? How long will they last?

How long will the surgery take?

What are the risks and potential complications associated with this surgery? How often do they occur?

What are the success rates for this procedure?

What if I choose not to have the surgery? Will my problem continue to worsen?

Can I wait until the timing is more convenient for me? For my family?

Should I get a second opinion?

How long will I be in the hospital or surgery center?

Can I have visitors? Are there certain visiting hours?

How long will it take me to recover? What will my recovery be like?

How is pain treated after my surgery?

Are the pain medications I'm receiving addictive? How can I prevent addiction?

How much help will I need at home after my surgery?

How many follow-up appointments will I have after my surgery? Are those included in the cost of the surgery?

Will I need to miss work? If so, for how long?

Pre-Surgery Preparation

What pre-surgery tests or evaluations are needed?

Are there any special instructions or preparations required before the surgery?

What medications should I stop or start taking before the surgery?

How can I prepare for the surgery? Mentally? Physically?

Anesthesia

What type of anesthesia will be used? Does it tend to make people nauseous or vomit? If so, can I be given an anti-nausea medication with it?

What are the risks associated with anesthesia?

How will anesthesia be administered?

Who will administer the anesthesia, and are they experienced in this procedure?

The Day of Surgery

What should I expect on the day of surgery?

What time should I arrive at the hospital or surgery center?

How long will I need to stay in the hospital or surgery center?

Post-Surgery Care

What will the recovery process be like?

How long is the expected recovery period?

What kind of pain or discomfort should I expect, and how will it be managed?

What are the signs of complications that I should watch for?

Will I need any special equipment or assistance at home after the surgery?

Are there any specific activities or movements I should avoid during recovery?

Outcomes and Follow-Up

What are the expected outcomes of the surgery?

When will I see the results or benefits of the surgery?

How many follow-up appointments will be needed?

What kind of follow-up care or rehabilitation will be required?

Costs and Insurance

What will be the total cost of the surgery, including hospital fees, surgeon's fees, and anesthesia?

Will my insurance cover the costs, and if so, what will be my out-of-pocket expenses?

Are there any payment plans or financial assistance options available?

Surgeon's Experience

How many times have you performed this specific surgery?

What is your success rate with this procedure?

Can you provide references or testimonials from previous patients?

Alternatives

Are there any non-surgical alternatives to this procedure?

What are the pros and cons of the alternatives compared to surgery?

Personal Considerations

How will the surgery impact my daily life and routines?

What should I do if I have concerns or questions after surgery?

What is the plan if the surgery does not achieve the desired outcome?