



## Surgery Information

The following instructions have been given to help you follow Dr. Bickert's Treatment Plan. Please read them carefully and ask if you have any questions.

You have been scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_

Your surgery has been scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_

### **BEFORE SURGERY - Now and up to 7 to 10 days prior to surgery**

A deposit of \$50.00 is required to start the surgery scheduling process and will be applied to any deductible or coinsurance you will owe. Once this deposit is received, we will call your insurance company to start the pre-certification and/or preauthorization process. We will also ask the insurance company for your benefits; however, your insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurance company which means you are ultimately responsible to know your coverage and benefits. Since all insurance and every medical condition is different, we cannot guarantee the amount you will owe. This is an ESTIMATE only.

We will work with the hospital and anesthesiologist, as well as other physicians, to schedule your surgery. Once we have a confirmation of the date and time, we will notify you. Since this involves much coordination, we ask for any date preferences or exclusions to be given to us as soon as possible so they can be taken into consideration.

You will need to return to see Dr. Bickert 7 to 10 days **prior** to your surgery, unless you have been instructed otherwise.

Please discontinue all "blood thinning agents" two (2) weeks prior to your surgery. This means not using any products that contain Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Advil, Vitamin E and Ginko Biloba which you are taking without the direction of a doctor. Please contact the doctor who prescribed any blood-thinning medications for advice BEFORE altering your prescription regimen. Please check with our office or review the provided surgery information sheet for a list of prohibited blood thinning medications.

### **BEFORE SURGERY - 7 to 10 days prior to surgery**

Your Preoperative appointment has been scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

Any deductibles, coinsurance and/or copays for surgery will be due on the day of your pre-operative appointment or 3 days prior to your surgery, whichever is first. Please note that there are usually four (4) separate charges for surgery: surgeon's fee, hospital's fee, lab/pathologist's fee and anesthesia. On the day of your pre-operative appointment, our office will collect your portion of the surgeon's fee, minus the \$50.00 deposit. Remember this is an estimate only and is subject to change depending on the processing of your insurance claim. Any remaining amount will be billed to you or refunded to you.

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It is recommended that once you are finished with your pre-operative exam in our office, you should go to the hospital/surgery center and register and pay your portion of the hospital fees. Anesthesia will be billed to you at a later date by the Anesthesiologist. Our office is not responsible for any charges incurred by the hospital or anesthesia.

Your surgery may or may not require a pre-operative appointment at the hospital. If one is needed, we will assist you in setting up this appointment. It can usually be completed at the same time as the above mentioned hospital registration. Please wear loose comfortable clothing and be prepared to spend about an hour at the hospital on the day of your hospital pre-operative appointment. Any additional blood work required will be completed at this time. Please note, you will not see Dr. Bickert at this appointment as it is required for anesthesia and the hospital.

### **DAY OF SURGERY**

You will need to report to Out-Patient / Day Surgery Admitting the day of your surgery. The Hospital/Surgery Center will call you **the day before your surgery** to inform you of your scheduled surgery time and when to arrive at the hospital/surgery center. Surgery times are typically rearranged to allow the youngest child or infant to have surgery first due to eating and drinking restrictions the night before. Anesthesia will also call you the day before surgery to remind you to **not have any food or drink after midnight the night before your surgery**. Please wear comfortable clothes that can easily be put back on after surgery. Please know that you must have someone drive you home from the hospital/surgery center. They should not leave the facility as procedures will not be started without a family member or responsible party present and post-operative transportation arranged.

### **POST-OPERATIVE FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS**

You will need to schedule a post-operative appointment with Dr. Bickert to be seen after your procedure, unless instructed otherwise. Please call our office to set up this appointment. Your post-op appointment is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

### **INSURANCE**

We will initiate the pre-certification with your insurance company for this procedure. Please note that due to sudden changes in insurance policies and coverage, the pre-certification is not usually received until the day before your scheduled surgery date to ensure the most accurate benefit information. However, this does not guarantee coverage or guarantee that the procedure will be paid in full. Pre-certification and authorization, as well as coinsurance estimates could result in a delay of scheduling or providing services. All deductibles and coinsurance amounts (up to the allowable) owed for the year must be paid before the surgery is performed. We recommend that you also call your insurance company to verify your coverage so that you may double-check their and our accuracy. Since your insurance is a contract between you and your insurance company, it is ultimately your responsibility to verify your benefits and understand your policy's coverage.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

There is a \$50.00 cancellation fee if the surgery is cancelled within 72 hours of the scheduled surgery time. An extensive amount of time is spent coordinating surgery schedules, insurance company requirements and other healthcare providers. If your surgery is cancelled then rescheduled again, this process must be completed over again.

If you have any questions regarding your surgery, please contact our office at 972-939-0368.

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