

PRE-OPERATIVE GENERAL ANESTHESIA INSTRUCTIONS

If you have any questions about your proposed treatment, please ask your doctor.

You have chosen **general anesthesia** for your treatment. You have the right to be informed about this so that you can decide whether to have it or not after knowing the risks and benefits. These common procedures are considered quite safe. Nevertheless, all procedures have some risks.

Because anesthetic medications (including oral premedication) causes drowsiness that lasts for some time, you **MUST** be accompanied by a responsible adult to drive you to and from surgery, and stay with you until you are recovered sufficiently to care for yourself. Sometimes the effects of the drugs do not wear off for 24 hours. **All escorts must remain in the waiting room during all scheduled procedures.**

During recovery time (normally 24 hours), you should not drive, operate complicated machinery or devices or make important decisions such as signing documents, etc.

You must have a completely empty stomach. It is vital that you have **NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK** for **six (6) hours** prior to your treatment. **TO DO OTHERWISE MAY BE LIFE-THREATENING.**

Unless instructed otherwise, it is important that you take any regular medications (high blood pressure, antibiotics, etc.) or any medicines given to you by your surgeon **using only a small sip of water.**