



Richard R. Lotenfoe, MD
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GENERAL PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. **IMPORTANT: DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING, INCLUDING WATER, AFTER MIDNIGHT ON THE DAY BEFORE YOUR SURGERY!!!**
2. You must have someone to drive you to and from the hospital the day of your surgery.
3. Take your Blood Pressure & Thyroid medications as prescribed with a small sip of water.
4. Stop taking **Aspirin, Ibuprofen, or NSAIDS 7 (SEVEN)** days prior to your procedure. These drugs affect platelet function and may prolong bleeding time, making you more likely to develop bruising and bleeding in the urine. If the surgery is less than 7 days away, let your surgeon know.
5. If you are taking **COUMADIN/WARFARIN**, you must stop this at least 5 days prior to the procedure. Ask your primary care physician/cardiologist if you need to bring Heparin or Lovenox with you.
6. If you are on other blood thinners such as **Plavix (clopidogrel), Pradaxa (dabigatran), Xarelto (rivaroxaban), or Eliquis (apaxiban)**, you must stop them at least 3 days prior to the surgery. Make sure you ask your physician/cardiologist if it is OK to stop the medication, if not, notify your surgeon.
7. If you are diabetic, DO NOT take your diabetic medications. In the pre-operative area your blood sugar will be checked and corrected if needed.
8. Bring your medications or a list of your current medications to the hospital.
9. Wear comfortable clothing. You may want to bring a robe and slippers. Jewelry and other valuables, including watches should be left at home.
10. Notify Dr. Lotenfoe if you develop a cold or other acute illness, or are exposed to a communicable disease prior to the surgery date.
11. If you have any questions or for any reason will NOT be able to make the appointment, please call Dr. Lotenfoe's office at 407-566-1105.

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ATTENTION SURGERY PATIENT

This letter is to inform you about the process of scheduling upcoming surgery with Dr. Lotenfoe. The surgery scheduling process involves many components. For some surgeries, the components are few, while for other they may be more extensive. Please be aware that in general it can take up to two weeks to get you on the surgery schedule. Please note that this process may be even longer if you need to have medical clearance from your primary care physician and/or cardiologist. The scheduling process involves coordination of the hospital's time allotted to the surgeon on specific days, as well as the surgeon's availability. If you have requested a specific day on which you would like to have your surgery, we will try to honor that request, but there may be times that this is beyond our control.

In most cases we must also obtain authorization from your insurance company prior to having your surgery. Without this authorization, your surgery cannot be performed and will have to be rescheduled until the authorization has been received. All co-pays and deductibles are required to be paid prior to the day of the procedure.

Most surgeries involve some type of pre-surgery testing. Often your insurance company will require that your testing be performed at certain locations within their network. Please note that the pre-surgery testing results must be performed, and the results returned in time for the hospital to receive them prior to your surgery. It is very important for you not to delay, or miss, your pre-surgery appointments. If for some reason your appointment is not convenient for you, please let our surgery scheduler know ASAP.

Please expect a call from the facility where you are to have surgery. They will confirm your surgery and go over any last minute details with you. If you are scheduled to have your pre-surgery testing at the hospital, they will go over any details with you during that appointment.

It is our pleasure to assist you with scheduling your surgery. When the surgery scheduler has completed the process of scheduling your surgery, you will be contacted by telephone. Scheduling of surgeries is a complex task that requires coordination of multiple services, is labor intensive and it is time consuming. Above all not showing up for a surgery, rescheduling without advance notification or canceling your surgery deprives other patients of much needed operating room time slots. Therefore we require that you give at least a five business days notice if you need to cancel your surgery for a non-medical reason. If you give less than the required five business days notice, you will be charged a cancellation fee of \$250.00. Please note that this charge is not billed or payable by your insurance company. If you no show to your surgery there will be a charge of \$250.00.

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