



Wills Eye Hospital

America's First World's Best

Preoperative Instructions

Please be advised, you will receive a call from one of our nurses the day before your surgery (Friday if you are a Monday case) sometime after 3:00 PM. Please note that this time may be left on your home or cell answering machine or voice mail. If you have any further questions or need clarification of which medications to take or if you do not receive a phone call with your preoperative arrival time, please call 215-928-3100. (This number is only to be used for the patients of Wills Eye Hospital at 840 Walnut Street)

The preoperative phone call will cover 5 areas:

1. Preoperative screening questions for COVID-19
2. Medication instructions
3. Eating and/ or drinking before your surgery
4. Preparing for your arrival to the facility
5. Preparing for your Discharge from the facility

Preoperative Screening

You will be asked:

Have you had a fever in the last 14 days? Do you currently have a fever?

Do you have or have you had any cold or Flu like symptoms in the last 14 days?

Do you have any acute respiratory issues, cold, cough, sneezing, recent loss of taste or smell, lethargy, fatigue/ tired/ body aches in the last 14 days?

Has anyone in your household experienced any of the above symptoms or had a fever in the last 14 days?

Have you ever been tested for Covid-19 corona virus?

Has anyone in your household been tested for Covid-19 corona virus?

If yes to either of the testing questions, when were you tested? What was the result?

****Please note that if you or anyone living in your household, have any health changes with reference to the questions in this survey, since your surgery was scheduled and up to the date of your surgery, it is imperative that you call and report this change to the surgical scheduler.**

What You Need to Know about Your Medications

1. Morning blood pressure and heart medications should be taken with a small sip of water if these medications are usually taken in the morning. However, we do not want you to take any medication that is a diuretic or "water pill" such as hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ) or lasix (Furosemide) or any medication that may be combined with these medications.
2. If you are a diabetic and take oral medications or use insulin please do not take or use these medications the morning of your procedure. If you use insulin the evening before the procedure, please contact your primary medical doctor to determine if you should reduce the amount of insulin you use. Not eating in the AM and taking the regular dosage of insulin the night before surgery may allow the blood sugar to decrease to low levels.
3. If you currently take aspirin, coumadin, ibuprofen or any other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory

(NSAID) medication or blood thinners, please contact your primary medical doctor to determine if you should continue taking these medications. These medications decrease the clotting ability of the blood and therefore must be stopped prior to many surgical procedures.

4. Please bring all medications you are currently taking with you on the day of surgery for anesthesia to review; this includes any eye drops currently used. Even those medications taken the morning of the procedure should be brought along for review.

Eating and or Drinking before Surgery

Do not eat or drink anything after midnight of the night before your procedure. This includes no gum, candy or mints. A small sip of water is only allowed for those patients taking morning medications. It is acceptable to brush your teeth the morning of surgery.

Exceptions to this rule include:

Infants 6 months to 2 years old- These children may have:

milk up to 8 hours before their scheduled arrival time

breast milk up to 3 hours before their arrival time

clear liquids, such as water and apple juice, up to 2 hours before their arrival time.(NO ORANGE JUICE)

Children 2 years to 5 years old:

clear liquids, such as water and apple juice, up to 3 hours before their arrival time.(NO ORANGE JUICE)

Children 5 years to 9 years old:

clear liquids, such as water and apple juice, up to 4 hours before their arrival time.(NO ORANGE JUICE)

Children 10 years old and older:

clear liquids, such as water and apple juice, up to 8 hours before their arrival time.(NO ORANGE JUICE)

Preparing for your arrival to the Facility

Please be advised you will change into a patient gown in the preoperative area prior to your surgery but you will remain wearing your socks and underpants.

Do not bring valuables and please remove all jewelry prior to arrival. We do not have any way of securing personal valuables while you are in surgery.

Please do not wear make-up, perfume, hairspray, body lotion or powders. The use of anti-perspirant or deodorant is acceptable.

Remember to bring insurance cards, a form of ID, and any other important documents, such as power of attorney, that you may need or were asked to bring. Also, if any paperwork was given to you to fill out prior to your arrival, please have it filled out and with you.

If you wear eye glasses, contact lenses, hearing aids or dentures; please bring a personal carrying case to hold the item(s) during surgery. Wills Eye Hospital cannot be held responsible for damaged goods not stored properly in a case.

If you were previously contacted by your physician or his/her office about a co-pay due for services, please be prepared to pay that amount upon arrival at the time of registration. (Please be advised we currently accept cash, personal check, debit cards and all major credit cards.)

Upon Arrival to facility please be aware of these policies:

1. Be prepared for foot traffic changes related to managing social distancing. Foot traffic into the building is being limited as well as seating is being limited. Screening of all guests entering into the building is being performed.
2. The 7th floor of parking garage is reserved for Surgical patients only and that is where you will park and enter the building off of the 7th floor deck.
3. All surgical patients must have an escort (18 years or older) with them when they come for surgery. This escort must remain at Wills Eye throughout the procedure.
4. It is crucial for patients and their escort to bring their mobile phones with them on the day of surgery, as this will be the primary mode of contact as the patient moves thru the surgical process.
5. Patients will not be permitted to enter the 7th floor entrance until their exact arrival time in order to control foot traffic and occupancy in the building. If, for any reason, we are ready for patient earlier than their expected arrival time then we will phone them.
6. Building Entry screening: Anyone entering the building will have their temperature taken prior to being given entry and will be required to wear a mask at all times while in the building. One will be provided if surgical patient or escort does not have one. If surgical patient wears their own mask then it will be switched out to a surgical mask when they come to the 7th floor prior to entering the clinical area.
7. Patients will be phoned when the preoperative unit is ready to bring the patient in to begin clinical care. Only Surgical patients will be brought into the clinical areas. Only the Parent or Escort of a Pediatric patient or any patient requiring Power of Attorney will be permitted to enter the clinical area with the patient.

Preparing for Discharge from the Hospital

You are required to have an adult (someone over 18 years old) to arrive with you, stay on campus during your procedure, and then take you home. Public transportation is not an acceptable form of transportation home from the hospital. Please come to the hospital and you will check in with your escort at the time of your registration. Registration personnel will take the name and telephone number(s) from the individual who will escort you home. This person will be contacted, provided discharge instructions over telephone from our Recovery room RN and then your escort will be met by you and our staff member on the 7th floor for discharge. If you arrive without a responsible escort (18 years or older) your case will need to be rescheduled. It is highly recommended that you park in the garage located next to/ attached to the Wills Eye Hospital building. You may access this garage from 8th Street after crossing Walnut, 9th Street between Spruce and Walnut or from Walnut Street on the left before 9th Street and after the main entrance to the building.

Thank you for your time, attention, and adherence to these policies during your visit with us at Wills Eye hospital. We hold your safety and care to the highest standards and want to ensure the safest environment possible during your stay with us. We look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,
The Wills Eye Team