

Welcome.

I want to thank you for choosing Blue Ridge Surgery Center. We developed this packet to help make your visit as pleasant and comfortable as possible by answering your questions prior to your visit.

When you arrive, you will enter the front doors of Blue Ridge Orthopaedics and the Surgery Center is on your right. The Surgery Center opens at 6:15am. The entry way may appear dark when the practice is not yet open.

As you enter the Surgery Center side, please register with our receptionist at the front desk. She will verify your name, address, and insurance information. She will need to copy your driver's license and insurance cards. The receptionist will ask for the papers in your folder that you filled out (Universal Medication Form, Pre-admission record-yellow sheet). This will shorten your time in the waiting room.

The receptionist will notify the Pre-op nurse when you have completed the registration process. The pre-op nurse will call you back to the pre-op area when there is a bed available and get you changed and ready for surgery. Most patients need to change into a "hospital gown." Your family or companion will stay in the waiting room.

The pre-op nurse will review your history and confirm any allergies. Your consent will be verified and your operative site will be marked. Intravenous fluids will be started and in some cases an antibiotic will be administered through the IV.

The anesthesiologist will speak to you and review your history. This may seem repetitious for you, but we want to ensure your safety and understanding. He/She will describe the type of anesthetics available for surgery. You and the anesthesiologist will decide the best anesthetic for you and your surgery.

The Operating Room nurse will introduce herself and take you back to the operating room. She will verify your name, date of birth, surgeon and planned surgical procedure as a safety measure. To ensure your comfort, we will offer you a warmed blanket and we will place monitors on you to watch your vital signs (heart rate, blood pressure, and oxygen level).

At the end of the surgery, your family member or companion will be instructed to go to our consultation room for your physician to explain what he found during surgery.

After your surgery, you will be taken to the recovery room typically for 15 minutes to an hour. You will be given something to drink, and we will make you comfortable. You may have a special ice pack called a cryo-cuff applied to your operative site to reduce swelling and pain. At the proper time, the nurse will get you ready for discharge and will allow your family member or companion to be with you. If you like, your family member or companion may help you get dressed. Discharge instructions will be reviewed with you. Please write any questions down that you have before your surgery and we will be glad to answer them during your discharge period.

One of our nurses will follow up with you after your surgery with a phone call. Feel free to ask us any questions or share any concerns at that time.

The surgery center staff thanks you for choosing us for your surgery. We hope sharing this with you will make your experience less stressful. If there is anything else we can do or could have done to make your visit more pleasant, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

Mary Augustine RN, BSN

Mary Augustine RN, BSN
Blue Ridge Surgery Center
Center Director