

Your Safety During Outpatient Treatment at Sierra Ambulatory Surgery Center

While you are receiving care at Sierra Ambulatory Surgery Center, many of the processes our staff follow to keep you safe are unseen. However, we want you to know about some of the measures we take so that you can be assured that safety is a constant part of your care.

▪ Expect our Staff to:

- Sanitize their hands when they enter and leave your care.
- Introduce themselves when they first meet you and wear ID badges.
- Confirm your identity before medications are given or procedures are performed.
- Check the information on your ID band.

▪ Our specially trained surgeons and staff protect your safety by following strict surgery preparation processes.

- The surgery team pauses their surgery preparation activities as a group to remove distractions while they confirm that you and your procedure are matched correctly.
- They have you participate in marking the site of your surgery to verify that the correct surgery is performed.
- They decrease the risk of surgical infections by thoroughly disinfecting their hands and forearms prior to surgery, and by checking that all instruments are properly sterilized and working properly.
- They select the safest type of anesthesia for you.
- They account for all surgical equipment before the procedure is finished.
- They teach you how to care for your surgical site.

▪ Keep Communication Channels Working:

- If you are given an identification armband, wear it throughout your stay.
- Treatment areas have call bells. Press the button to notify staff that you need help.

▪ Speak Up:

Tell Us About Any Changes in the Way You Feel:

- New or unrelieved pain
- New, different or worsening symptoms
- Changes in abilities, strength or response to treatments

▪ Please talk to our staff if you:

- See any unsafe situation or think something is not right
- Don't have full understanding
- Have information about yourself that you want us to know
- Think staff has confused you with another patient
- Have questions or concerns. You can speak to:
 - ◊ Staff who are taking care of you
 - ◊ Medical Director of Sierra Ambulatory Surgery Center
- Ask questions; seek extra information – it's your right to know what is happening to you!
 - ◊ Write down facts your doctor and nurses tell you before you leave Sierra Ambulatory Surgery Center.
 - ◊ Read medical forms before you sign them.

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▪ Tell Us About:

- Allergies that you have to food, medications, latex and other items
- Medications, herbs and supplements that you have been taking recently
- Any special diet, cultural or religious practices or concerns you have
- Any medical conditions or surgeries that you have had
- Any limitations or disabilities that may affect your safety such as difficulty walking, balance or vision issues
- Anyone that you would like to restrict from visiting

▪ Follow Infection Prevention Practices:

- **For Hand Hygiene:**
 - ◇ Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before eating, after using the bathroom, after sneezing or coughing and regularly during the day.
- **For Respiratory Hygiene:**
 - ◇ Cover your cough! Use tissues when coughing or sneezing or cough into your elbow.
- **Quit Smoking**
 - ◇ People who smoke get more infections.