

US Anesthesia Partners of Colorado Preparation for Surgery

The Day Before Surgery

- Your anesthesia provider may try to call you the night before your surgery. They may call from a number you do not recognize, so please try to answer the phone number you listed as your primary contact number.

Types of Anesthesia

- You will have time to speak with your anesthesia provider at the surgical facility on your day of surgery. We encourage you to provide input into our plan for your care. **If you have a specific question and would like to speak with an anesthesia provider prior to the day of surgery, please do not hesitate to call our office and we will connect you with someone.**
- After carefully considering the type of surgery, your overall health, medical history, lab results and your concerns and preferences, your anesthesia provider will talk to you about the type of anesthesia that is both the safest and best suited for you. Because the goal of anesthesia is to keep you safe and comfortable, sometimes there may not be an option for the anesthesia type you receive.
- These are the main types of anesthesia (for more information you can visit www.asahq.org):
 - **General anesthesia** provides a total loss of consciousness, meaning you will be fully asleep. You will not be aware of any pain or feeling during your surgery. This type of anesthesia uses a combination of IV medicine (given through a tube in your vein) and gases (that you breathe through a mask or breathing tube).
 - **Regional anesthesia** blocks pain to a specific area of your body. Your anesthesia provider will inject medication near a nerve and you may also get other medications through an IV to help you relax. A peripheral nerve block blocks a nerve or group of nerves and is common for surgeries on hands, feet, arms, legs or the face. Epidural or spinal anesthesia is given through an injection to block pain for a large area of the body such as the abdomen, hips or legs.
 - **MAC (Monitored Anesthesia Care or Conscious Sedation)** uses IV medication to help you relax and decrease pain. You will not be completely asleep, but you may sleep and will be very groggy.
- Your anesthesia provider will not leave your side during surgery. They will be right next to you to monitor you and your vital signs and make sure you remain safe and comfortable.

What to Expect Before Surgery

- You will be asked to change into a hospital gown. No personal clothing or personal items will be allowed into the OR.
- The pre-operative nurse will review your history, medications and allergies and take your vital signs. An IV (a tube in your vein for medications and fluids) will be placed. If applicable, blood lab work or other tests may be conducted. Women of childbearing age may be screened for pregnancy.
- A support person may accompany you into the pre-operative area until it is time for surgery, at which time they will be directed to the waiting room.

Additional Questions

- It is very important to us that you have a good experience with your anesthesia. After your surgery, you may receive a text or email asking you to complete a short survey. We value your feedback and use the data that we receive to make sure we continue to provide great care of our patients.
- **Billing:** Please note that anesthesia services are billed separately from the rest of your surgery. We do participate with most major insurance plans. Depending on your insurance you may have some out-of-pocket expenses. You can call our Billing Department at 303-377-7638 if you have questions or would like to make pre-payment arrangements.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of you care.

US Anesthesia Partners of Colorado
<https://www.usap.com/locations/usap-colorado/about-us>
303-785-4700

