

# SURGERY SCHEDULING PACKET

Dr. Burrus has recommended surgery for the treatment of your orthopedic condition. This packet has been developed to help answer some of your questions regarding your surgery. We hope that we can make your surgical experience as pleasant as possible.

## **Scheduling Process**

The surgery scheduler, **Kristin Barker**, will contact your insurance company to verify your surgical benefits and obtain any authorizations if needed for your surgery. She will contact the Surgery Facility and coordinate the next available time and date according to the physician's schedule. After this information is collected, she will contact you. She will also inform you of any out of pocket cost for your physician's services.

We ask you to please be patient and also to keep in mind that the surgery scheduling process may take somewhere from 5-10 business days, unless Dr. Burrus has marked your surgery as urgent; otherwise your surgery is considered as an elective procedure. Prior to her call, please begin to look at dates which would fit within your schedule. Dr. Burrus normally performs surgeries on Monday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday. If you have not heard from her in the time stated above please contact Kristin directly at 512-538-2675.

Once the surgery date is decided upon, Kristin will schedule your first postoperative visit with Dr. Burrus as well as your first postoperative physical therapy session (if needed).

## **Patient Education (for certain procedures)**

To learn more about your procedure and see an animated video, go to [www.orthoillustrated.com](http://www.orthoillustrated.com) and search \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Equipment**

Depending on your surgery, a calf compression device to reduce the risk of blood clots and an ice pack system (cold compression therapy) will be delivered to your house the day of surgery or 1-2 days before. The company (REM Medical Solutions) will reach out to you to confirm this. If you have any questions, then call the customer service hotlines at 214-923-1776 or 214-885-3561.

- The company will call you 2-4 days prior to surgery to arrange delivery and discuss the cost.
- Your insurance likely covers the cost of the units; if not, then the cost is \$175.
- Instructions for usage will be provided with the equipment.
- The ice pack is a 30-day rental and the compression device is for you to keep.

Crutches can be purchased in clinic or can be obtained from one of many options such as CVS, Walmart, etc. If you are having lower extremity surgery (hip, knee, ankle, or foot), then you will need crutches, and these should be obtained prior to the date of surgery.

Depending on the surgery, a knee brace, shoulder sling, or any other devices will be placed in the operating room while you are still asleep.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SURGERY**

Do not eat or drink anything (water, gum, mints, coffee, juice, etc.) after midnight the night before your surgery unless otherwise notified. Please remember it is hazardous to undergo anesthesia or surgery with anything in your stomach.

If you routinely take medications for other health conditions such as high blood pressure, you may take your medications on the morning of your surgery with a small sip of water only.

Stop taking Aspirin and other anti-inflammatory drugs such as Motrin, Ibuprofen and Aleve within 5 days prior to surgery, as these can cause excessive bleeding. Some heart conditions require that Aspirin is continued, and if you have any concerns about this then ask Dr. Burrus.

If you are on anticoagulants/blood thinner such as Coumadin (Warfarin) and Plavix (Clopidogrel) or if you are unsure if you are taking anticoagulants/blood thinners, you must inform Dr. Burrus.

Prior to surgery, it is very important that Dr. Burrus is aware of all your medical history. Any recent changes in your health or a new diagnosis should be reported. This may include, but not limited to diabetes, heart disease, lung problems, bleeding disorders or recent infections. Please be sure that your medical history information that we have is complete and up-to-date.

If you develop a rash, infection, or have any other skin issues over the joint or area where the surgery will be performed, then immediately let Dr. Burrus know as surgery may need to be delayed.

Wear loose fitting clothing over the part of the body that you are going to have surgery. Tight fitting clothing may not be comfortable or fit over bandages, casts or splints.

Please leave all your valuables and jewelry at home; there is not a safe place to lock up such belongings at the surgery center or hospital.

If you are scheduled to stay overnight in the hospital, please remember to pack a small overnight bag accordingly.

If you are scheduled for outpatient surgery, you are not going to be capable to drive yourself home. Please make arrangements for your transportation home.

You should arrive 1 (one) to 2 (two) hours prior to your surgery depending on the location of your surgery.

The Anesthesiologist will either contact you the evening prior to your surgery or talk to you the morning of surgery to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

# FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF SURGERY

**Due to insurances purposes and facility policies you must be seen by Dr. Burrus within 30 days of a scheduled surgery. Surgery will be cancelled if you are not seen by Dr. Burrus.**

## **Insurance Benefits**

As you know, most insurance plans require that you pay a deductible, co-pay, or a co-insurance. We require that you pay your deductible, co-pay, co-insurance or any other out-of-pocket requirements for your surgery at least 3 days in advance. This pre-payment is based on an estimate, and the final bill may be less or more once the claim is processed by your insurance plan. For your convenience, payments can be made with cash, check, credit card, or you can apply for care credit online at [www.carecredit.com](http://www.carecredit.com) for a payment plan.

## **Surgical Assistant Fee**

A licensed surgical assistant may be required based on the surgical procedure. Dr. Burrus will request the assistant only when necessary. This service may be contracted from an outside company and your insurance may or may not cover the assistant charges. These charges will be your responsibility if they are not covered by your insurance company.

## **Home Health Care**

Following some surgeries you may require home healthcare. For your convenience, we will contact Dr. Burrus' preferred company and provide them the necessary information to contact you and prepare you for going home after surgery. If you have another company you prefer, please let Dr. Burrus or his medical assistant know so we can get them the necessary information.

## **Facility & Anesthesiologist Fee**

Dr. Burrus has privileges at several different hospitals and surgery centers. The facility where your surgery is scheduled will contact you regarding their separate fees. Anesthesia is provided by the individual facility, and they will be able to provide you with information regarding these fees.

**Surgeries must be cancelled at least 3 days prior to the scheduled date to avoid a \$100.00 late cancellation fee.**

**By signing below I am acknowledging I have read and understand the statements above.**

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

# **PRE-OP CLEARANCE INFORMATION**

Occasionally, it is necessary to obtain a medical clearance from your Primary Care Physician, Cardiologist, or any other physicians you may have prior to scheduling your surgery to make sure there are no underlying health issues that would prevent or delay you from having your procedure. Our office will request the clearance for your surgery but please keep in mind the clearing physician may need to see you in their office prior to providing this, and it will be your responsibility to schedule this appointment. Please provide us with the names of your physicians and their numbers if you have them below.

Primary Care: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardiologist: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Physicians: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter,  
Surgery Scheduling Department