OUR MISSION
To optimize the health status of those we serve by providing the highest quality, value and service while remaining financially strong.

For more information contact:

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital
200 St. Clair Street
St. Marys, Ohio 45885-2400
Phone: 419-394-3335 • Toll Free: 877-564-6897
www.grandlakehealth.org
For patients who need surgical procedures which require hospitalization, Joint Township District Memorial Hospital offers high-quality yet cost-effective medical care. Please be assured that all members of the medical, nursing and administrative staffs are available to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

PRE-ADMISSION TESTING

If you are receiving Anesthesia Services:
1. You will be given a time to come in to the hospital to meet with a PAT nurse. You will complete any ordered tests during this visit.
2. Some patients may only require a phone interview. Any ordered tests should be done after your phone interview.
3. Decision regarding the choice of anesthesia will be made by you, your surgeon and the anesthesia provider.

If you are receiving Local or IV sedation (administered by your surgeon):
1. Your health history will be discussed when you arrive for your procedure.

Be prepared to discuss:
- Allergies to medications, food and the environment.
- Medications that you are currently taking including prescriptions, inhalers, aspirin, blood thinners, vitamins, herbs and dietary supplements.
- Previous surgeries and any problems you may have had.

ADMISSION

Please report to the Patient Registration Area at the time your physician or the Pre-admission Coordinator informs you to report. (See back of brochure for date and time to report.)

PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. It is important for you to have an empty stomach at the time of your operation to avoid complications. Eat a light meal at dinnertime the night before your surgery. **Do not** eat or drink anything after midnight before your surgery – not even a cup of coffee or water. You may brush your teeth without swallowing the water.
2. Be active. Walk to get the blood circulating through your body. Do this in the morning and throughout the day if your surgery is scheduled late in the day.

3. Please refrain from smoking for 12 to 24 hours prior to surgery. Smoking within 12 hours of your procedure may result in the delay or cancellation of the procedure.
4. Wear casual, comfortable clothes for your visit with us. You will be given a hospital gown, robe and slippers to wear on the unit. For certain surgeries, you may be permitted to wear your underpants. Please bring an extra pair in case they get soiled or damaged during surgery.
5. Do not wear make-up, nail polish, hairspray or perfume.
6. If you were instructed to take any medications, take them with a few small sips of water.
7. Please leave jewelry, money, credit cards, and all other valuables at home. We cannot be responsible for these items.
8. Remember to bring a case for glasses or contact lenses.
9. If you wear dentures, a partial plate, or any other prosthesis, you will be asked to remove them just prior to surgery.
10. If patient is a child, please bring a favorite toy, blanket or pajamas.
11. Practice deep breathing and coughing:
   - Do two (2) times the evening before and day of your surgery, 4 or 5 deep breaths each time.
   - Place hands on abdomen.
   - Breathe air through nose.
   - Blow air out through mouth.
   - Breathe air through nose again.
   - Cough air out.
   - Do hourly after your operation.

SPECIAL NOTES

- For your safety, when you leave the hospital **you must have a driver ready to take you home.**
- Call your doctor if you should develop illness such as cold, sore throat, cough or fever prior to surgery.
- Tell your doctor what medications you take. This includes things like aspirin, vitamins, blood thinner and herbs. Ask whether you should stop taking any of these before surgery.

ON THE DAY OF SURGERY

- You, your surgeon and the anesthesia provider will make decisions regarding the choice of anesthesia. Your anesthesia provider will administer general anesthesia.
  - Intravenous (IV) sedation is medicine given through a needle in a vein after which you relax and sleep.
  - Regional anesthesia involves the anesthesia provider injecting groups of nerves with a medicine that produces a numbing effect and is used alone or in conjunction with general or IV anesthesia.
  - Local anesthesia involves numbing only the area of the body upon which the surgery is to be performed and is administered by the surgeon.
- You will be transported to the surgery holding area before your scheduled time.
- If your surgery time is altered due to cancellations, delays or emergencies, the nursing staff will keep you updated.

DURING YOUR SURGERY

Family or friends may wait in the Waiting Area. The volunteer at the Information Desk will keep family members informed about your progress and answer any questions they may have about the hospital. One or two family members will meet with your surgeon in the Consultation Room when the operation is completed. Coffee and snacks are available in our Cafeteria and Canteen. Family members should keep the volunteer informed of their whereabouts so that the Surgery staff may contact them when necessary.

Following consultation with the surgeon, family members may return to the patient’s room upstairs.

AFTER SURGERY

When your surgery has been completed, you will be closely observed in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit for an hour or longer depending on the kind of operation and your condition. Your family may visit when you have returned to your room.

REMEMBER

It is normal to feel a little dizzy or drowsy for several hours after your operation. We wish you a speedy and comfortable recovery. If you have any questions about your surgery either before or afterwards, please call us at 419-394-3335,