

## FAQs for Surgery Patients

### **Do I need to get authorization from my insurance carrier?**

Our office will obtain all necessary insurance authorizations prior to your surgery. We do recommend that you contact your insurance carrier to confirm your benefits; including co-insurance, co-pays and hospital coverage so you will be aware of all financial responsibilities on your part. *Please remember that Dr. Implicito is out-of network with ALL insurance carriers except for Medicare and the HUMC employee Qualcare program.*

### **Will I need pre-operative testing and medical clearance?**

All surgical procedures require medical clearance and some pre-operative testing. Our office will advise you as to which tests are needed and where and when to have them performed. The hospital adheres to very strict timelines regarding pre-operative testing and we ask that you consult with our surgical coordinator before scheduling any pre-operative testing on your own. We try, in most circumstances, to schedule your appointments for you so that we can be sure all results are valid for your surgical admission.

### **Do I need to stop my regular medicines prior to surgery?**

Please consult our medications guidelines page for more information. If you have any questions regarding your current medications, please call our office or your primary care physician prior to surgery. Any medications that have been OK'd by Dr. Implicito/Dr. Koerner or your primary care physician should be taken with just a sip of water on the morning of your surgery.

### **Can I eat on the day of my surgery?**

Please do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before your surgery.

### **How long will I be in the hospital?**

The length of stay for spine surgery procedures differs- some can be performed on an out-patient basis, while other require a 1 night, 2 night, or longer stay at the hospital. You should discuss the anticipated length of stay at the hospital with Dr. Implicito/Dr. Koerner and our surgical coordinator when scheduling your surgery.

### **When will I follow-up with Dr. Implicito/Dr. Koerner after my surgery?**

Dr. Implicito/Dr. Koerner will see you daily if you remain as an inpatient at the hospital. Once released, he will see you in our office approximately 10 days to 2 weeks post-op. Please schedule this appointment with our surgical coordinator when scheduling your surgery.