

Questions to Ask Your Doctor about a Surgical Procedure

Quality healthcare is a team effort. And as the most important member of your Care Team, you can make sure you get the best possible care by being prepared for your appointment and asking questions before, during and after your visit.

But what questions should you ask? If you're visiting your doctor to talk about a surgical procedure, here's a list of questions you can print and bring to your appointment.

Don't forget, making sure you understand the answers you get is just as important. It's always a good idea to take notes. And if you don't understand or are confused, ask your doctor to explain the answer again.

- ▶ Why do I need surgery?
- ▶ Is there some other way to treat my condition?
- ▶ What kind of surgery do I need?
- ▶ Have you done this surgery before?
- ▶ Which is the best hospital for this surgery?
- ▶ What do I need to do to prepare?
- ▶ How long will the surgery take?
- ▶ Does someone need to accompany me?
- ▶ Will I need anesthesia?
- ▶ How long will it take me to recover?
- ▶ How long will I be in the hospital?
- ▶ What can I expect after my surgery?
- ▶ Will I need special help at home?
- ▶ What will happen if I wait or don't have this surgery?

Notes:

