

know what to expect the days before your surgery

Below is a description of what generally happens on the day of surgery. Each surgical center is different, so your experience may vary.

GSP BC (vancouver) pathway

- 1 The nurse will provide you with instructions on any preparations you need to do before your surgery
- 2 The day before surgery, a nurse will call to confirm the time of your surgery and the time you need to arrive at the hospital
- 3 The night before your surgery, follow the instructions from your surgeon for when to stop eating and drinking.
- 4 The day of your surgery, arrive at the hospital's Admitting Department at the time advised by the surgeon's office.
- 5 Check in with the Admissions Desk. Get a wristband with your name, date of birth, PHN and the gender that is listed on your BC Services Card.
- a **HOT TIP:** The team at GSP BC will work with other hospital departments to ensure that your correct name and pronoun are used during your hospital stay. Hospital Admission staff will write the name you go by on your wristband ID.
- 6 You will be given some privacy to wash and change in to a hospital gown.
- 7 A nurse will talk with you about what to expect. You'll be reminded to remove your jewelry. You can ask any questions you have. You may be given some medications.
- 8 The nurse may start an IV and check your blood pressure and assist you in to the hospital bed.
- 9 The surgeons may visit you and make some drawings on your body to guide the procedure.
- 10 The anesthesiologist may visit you to talk about the anesthetic and answer questions.

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- 11 You will be taken to the Operating Room in your hospital bed.
- 12 The nurses will assist you onto the surgical table and put on a blood pressure cuff and some monitors.
- 13 The Operating Room team confirm with you the name that you go by, the name on your BC Services Card (if different), and the type of surgery you are having.
- 14 The anesthesiologist will talk you through going under anesthesia.
- 15 Once the anesthesia has made you fall asleep, the surgeon will begin the procedure. The procedure usually takes about 5-6 hours. Your friends and family can wait for you in the waiting room.
- 16 When the surgery is over, you will be taken to a recovery area. Nurses will monitor you closely until the anesthesia wears off.
- 17 You will be taken back to your hospital room and the nurses will help you get settled. They will continue to monitor you, help you with pain management, and talk to you about your bandages and drains. Once you are settled, your friends and family can visit you.
- 18 After your surgery, you will stay in the hospital for 6-7 days.
- 19 You will then be discharged home or to your local temporary accommodations.

