

What to Expect the Day of Your Surgery

Thank you for choosing Barnes-Jewish Hospital for your surgery. We are committed to providing excellent care to you and your loved ones. We understand that waiting is not easy. We hope this information will help ease the stress that often goes along with having surgery.

Location & Parking

Barnes-Jewish Hospital (South Campus)
One Barnes-Jewish Hospital Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63110 USA

The South Campus is located 1 block north of the I-64/US40 and Kingshighway Boulevard intersection.

Please park in the South Garage:

- It is connected to the main level of the hospital by an enclosed walkway.
- It has 3 levels, and Handicapped parking is located on Level 2 (Blue Level), west of the escalator.
- Bring your garage ticket inside to be validated.

A lower level parking garage with a clearance of 6 feet and 8 inches is also available. It is located near the corner of Kingshighway Boulevard and Barnes-Jewish Hospital Plaza (across the street from the South entrance). The time of arrival your surgeon's office provided included preparation time. You do not need to come earlier than the designated time.

Surgery Waiting Area

Time: about 1-2 hours.

When you arrive, please go to **Surgical Reception**. It is located on the main floor of the South Campus.

Directions from the South Garage:

- Cross over the enclosed walkway into the main lobby.
- Turn right just before the fountain in the lobby.
- Surgical Reception will be on the left, past the restrooms.

When you arrive, you will:

- Check in at the desk.
- Be given a pager for you and your loved ones to receive updates.
- Place your belongings in a locker.

Surgical Reception will be the main waiting area for your loved ones while you are in surgery.

Please Note:

- **If there is a delay in starting your surgery, we will update you and loved ones as soon as possible.**
- **Depending on your surgery, your loved ones may have an extended wait time.**

For your comfort, we suggest that you and your loved ones bring something to occupy the wait time (book, IPAD, magazine, etc.) Puzzle books and board games are available upon request.

Holding (Pre-Op) Area

Time: about 1 hour.

When it is time to prepare you for surgery, you and your loved ones will be taken to the Holding (Pre-Op) Area.

Your nurse will:

- Help you get changed.
- Place your IV.
- Draw blood.
- Do a health assessment.

Your anesthesia team will talk with you and do a health assessment.

For your safety the surgery team will:

- Meet with you to review your surgery and consent form.
- Place a mark on the area of your body where your surgery will be performed. This mark will go away after your surgery is done.
- Take you to the operating room.

For your safety, you will be asked by different team members to repeat your name, birthdate and surgery. This is to make sure that we are providing the highest quality and safest care.

Operating Room (OR)

Time: Varies depending on your surgery.

The OR is where your surgery will be performed.

For your safety, your surgical team will do:

- A “Brief”: a safety step to ensure everything from your name to your surgery is correct.
- A “Time Out”: another safety step ensuring everything from your name and your surgery are correct that is done while you are under anesthesia.

While you are in surgery, your loved ones will get updates from the Operating Room staff every 2 hours. They can also track your progress on the Patient Tracker Board. Once your surgery is over, your doctor will talk with your loved ones about how your surgery and how you are doing.

Recovery Room (PACU)

Time: Varies depending on your procedure.

During recovery, your nurse will:

- Introduce him or her.
- Get report from the surgical team on how your surgery went.
- Do a health assessment and place you on monitoring equipment.
- Watch you closely and treat any pain you may have.

Before you move to a room or to the Outpatient Area, your loved ones may be able to visit 1 time in the recovery room for about 15 minutes. If a room becomes available prior to 90 minutes, you will be directed to the IP room.