Surgery Consultation Questions

When meeting with a surgeon for an initial consultation, it is a good idea to come with questions in order to get the most out of the visit. You do not have to ask all of these questions and may find you have questions that are not on this list. This is a starting point to give you ideas of the types of things you may want to know before choosing a surgeon. For more information call 314-454-8 or2468, option 2, or email our nurse at karen.karen@wustl.edu

Prerequisites for Surgery
Your insurance company may require one or all of the following:

- 18 years old or older
- 6 months or more on gender-affirming hormone therapy
- 2 referrals from mental health providers

If you do not meet these criteria, your insurance company may not pay for any part of the surgery including the initial consultation with the surgeon.

Questions about Insurance Coverage/Cost:
- Who is the contact person in the office and when will I be given the out-of-pocket costs?
- If coverage is denied, will surgery office appeal?
- If I pay completely out of pocket, is there any sort of discount or financing plan available?
- Does the cost include hospital fees, pathology fees, anesthesia fees, supplies and medications? Does the cost include revisions?

Questions about the Surgery Itself:
- What techniques do you offer? Are there techniques that you do not offer?
- Who all is involved in the surgery? Who does what?
- Do you have before and after photos from previous surgeries?
- What training have you had in this surgery? Did you have additional training before offering this surgery to gender expansive people?
- How many of these surgeries have you done?
- Do I need to have a pre-op physical or bloodwork?
- Do I need to stop hormones before surgery?
- Will surgery have an effect on sensation?

Tips for Your Meeting with the Surgeon
- Bring a friend or family member to take notes.
- Arrive early and expect the visit to run late.
- Bring post-surgery photos that you would be pleased with.
- Bring this sheet or a list of questions you have.
- Be prepared to disrobe. The surgeon will need to take measurements and photos.

Questions about Recovery:
- How long of a recovery period can I expect? How long will I need to be off work?
- Do I need someone else to help with care at home during the recovery period?
- What type of follow-up is required after?
- Will medications be prescribed after surgery?
- Are there any complications that can occur? How often do patients need another surgery?
- How soon after surgery will I see final results? What are my options if I am not satisfied?

Check out more tips and recovery kits by scanning the QR code.
Services Provided at Washington University School of Medicine

**Bottom Surgery:**
Dr. Gino Vricella - Washington University at St. Louis Children’s
(314) 454-6034 (Dr. Alison Snyder-Warwick performs bottom surgery with Dr. Vricella)

**Vocal Surgery:**
Dr. Randall Paniello, Dr. Molly Huston, and Dr. Joseph Bradley - Washington University
(314) 362-7509

**Facial Feminization:**
Dr. Dennis Nguyen - Washington University at St. Louis Children’s
(314) 362-7388

**Hysterectomy:**
Dr. Holly Hoefgen - Washington University
(314) 273-4724
Dr. Gillian Schivone and Dr. David Eisenberg - Washington University
(314) 362-4211

**Top Surgery**
Dr. Alison Snyder Warwick - Washington University at St. Louis Children’s
(314) 362-7388 or (800) 283-5848
Dr. Marissa Tenenbaum, Dr. Dennis Nguyen & Dr. Rachel Anolik - West County Plastic Surgeons of Washington University
(314) 996-8800

**Laser Hair Removal:**
Dr. Caroline Mann - Dermatology, Washington University
(314) 996-8010

**Electrolysis (not provided by Washington University)**
Electrolysis Etc. - Sunyatta McDermott
(314) 727-8313

**Cosmetic Dermatology:**
Meramec Dermatology
(636) 751-0995