

# PRE-SURGERY APPOINTMENT

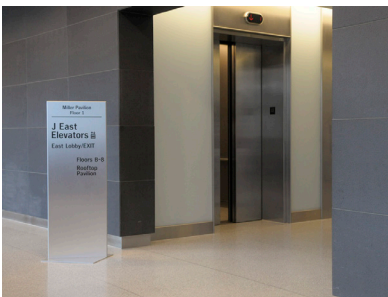
## My pre-surgery appointment is scheduled for:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Go to:** J4-1 Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Outpatient Center  
(4th floor of J Building. Take the J East elevators)

Most patients who have thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at Cleveland Clinic are scheduled through our preoperative (pre-surgery) program. This program is referred to as TCI, which is short for To Come In. If your surgery is being scheduled through TCI, we will call you to schedule an appointment that is usually 1-2 weeks before your surgery.

## Your Pre-Surgery/TCI Appointment



When you get to Cleveland Clinic, go to **Desk J4-1**. Take the J East Elevators to the 4th floor of the J Building.

At this appointment, we will let you know when and where to go on the day of your surgery, what to expect before and after surgery, and if you need to have any tests done before your surgery.

**Plan to be at Cleveland Clinic ALL DAY** If you need to have tests or see another healthcare provider. You may need to come back another day, depending on the tests/appointments you need. Please bring items to help you pass time while you wait.

You will get a lot of information about your surgery. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend to help you remember this information.

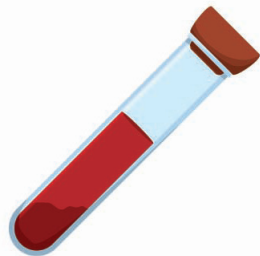
## Please bring:

- Your insurance information
- A list of all medications you take (including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins and supplements)
- A list of all allergies you have

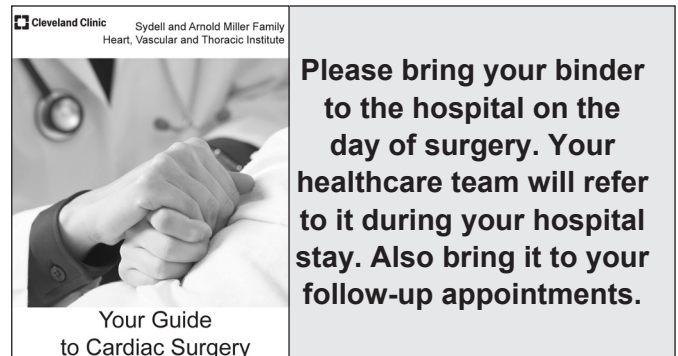
## What can I expect the day of my pre-surgery/TCI appointment?

You will:

- **Meet with a cardiologist.** The cardiologist will perform a physical exam; answer your questions; review your medications, medical records and test results; and order any tests, procedures, or lab work you need before surgery.
- **Meet an anesthesiologist** who is specially trained to give anesthesia to patients who have cardiovascular surgery.
- **Meet your surgeon:** We will make every attempt for you to meet your surgeon on the day of your appointment. If this is not possible, we will schedule a time for you to do so.
- **Meet the surgical nurse clinician and/or licensed independent practitioner** who works with your surgeon. The healthcare provider will review your lab results and medications, schedule your arrival time, give you instructions for your surgery, and talk about ways to manage your pain after surgery.
- **Have additional tests,** if needed. We will make every attempt to schedule additional testing on the same day as your pre-surgery appointment. These tests may include an echocardiogram, electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG), chest X-ray, routine blood work, urinalysis or other tests.



- **Learn about your surgery and recovery.** You will get a binder to help you prepare for surgery, hospital stay and recovery.



- You will get download instructions for Cleveland Clinic's guided imagery program to use before and after your surgery.

## Insurance Coverage for Surgery

- Many insurance companies require pre-authorization for hospital admissions.
- Please make sure we have your most current and complete insurance information.
- Check with your insurance company to be sure you have filled out all needed paperwork before you are admitted to the hospital.
- Cleveland Clinic will bill your insurance company for the charges associated with your stay. You will be billed for unpaid charges.

---

## Questions or Concerns about Insurance?

Contact a Patient Financial Advocate  
**216.442.1600 or 855.831.1284**  
**Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

---



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



- If you smoke, STOP IMMEDIATELY. Please ask your healthcare provider about ways to help you quit.
- **Ask your doctor about taking medicine before surgery. You may need to make changes or stop taking some types of medicine. DO NOT make any changes unless your doctor tells you to.**
- **If you are having valve surgery, you must see a dentist within the 6 months before your surgery. Your dentist will need to complete a **Dental Clearance form** to confirm that you do not have an oral infection. Please fax the completed form to 216.445.9608 before your surgery date. Also bring a copy of the completed form with you to your TCI appointment.**
- **If you get sick within a few days of your surgery**, call 216.445.9614 or 800.223.2273 ext. 59614 to speak with a nurse, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Evenings and weekends: Call 216.444.9474 or 800.223.2273 ext. 49474, and ask for Pager 22490.



**If you have any questions about the pre-surgery program,  
please call:**

**Surgery Scheduling Office**

216.445.9614 or 800.223.2273, ext. 59614

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

## Surgery Scheduling

Cleveland Clinic has been ranked the #1 heart program by *U.S. News & World Report* every year since 1995. We perform more cardiovascular surgeries than most hospitals in the United States, and many of our patients have complex problems that require immediate attention. We are committed to providing each patient with the best care possible.

We will contact you as soon as possible to let you know your exact surgery date and the time to report to Cleveland Clinic. Your surgery date or time may need to be rescheduled due to an emergency surgery. If this happens, we will reschedule your surgery as soon as possible.

If you need to reschedule surgery for any other reason, please call your surgeon's office as far in advance as possible. You may also call the **Surgical Scheduling Office at 216.445.9614**. If you have an emergency situation the night before surgery and cannot come, call **Cleveland Clinic's operator at 216.444.2200** and ask to speak to the cardiac surgery resident on call.

**My surgery is scheduled for:**

---

*This information is not intended to replace the medical advice of your healthcare provider. Please consult your healthcare provider for advice about a specific medical condition or treatment.*



[clevelandclinic.org/heart](http://clevelandclinic.org/heart)

© 2000-2021 Cleveland Clinic All rights reserved.

Rev. 9/22

1021655 / 207088