

PRE-SURGERY APPOINTMENT

My pre-surgery appointment is scheduled for:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: F-30, Department of Vascular Surgery

Each year, more than 3,000 thoracic and cardiovascular surgery patients are scheduled through our preoperative (pre-surgery) program. Most patients come to Cleveland Clinic on the same day as their scheduled surgery, instead of being admitted to the hospital before surgery.

You may hear the term “TCI.” This stands for “to come in,” which means you are being seen for a pre-surgery appointment. This appointment is usually 1-2 weeks before your surgery. We will call you to schedule this appointment.

Your Pre-Surgery Appointment

You will check in for your pre-surgery appointment at **Desk F-30**, the Vascular Surgery Department.

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.

If you need testing or need to see another healthcare provider, **YOU MAY BE AT CLEVELAND CLINIC ALL DAY** for your appointment, or you may need to come back another day. Please bring something to help you pass the time while you wait. We will do our best to make sure that you and your visitors are as comfortable as possible while you are at the hospital.

You will get a lot of information at this appointment. If you can, bring a family member or friend to help you remember the important details about preparing for surgery.

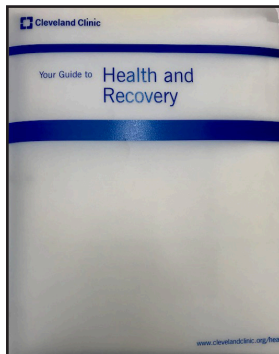
Please bring:

- 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 happens at your preoperative appointment

Here's a summary of what you can expect during your preoperative appointment:

- **Meet an anesthesiologist** who is specially trained to give anesthesia to patients who are having vascular surgery.
- **Meet your surgeon:** We make every attempt for you to meet your surgeon on the day of your pre-surgery visit. If this is not possible, we will schedule a time for you to meet the surgeon and talk about your surgery.
- **Meet the registered nurse and/or licensed independent practitioner** who works with your surgeon. The healthcare provider will also 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.
- **Learn about your surgery and recovery:** You also will get a **binder** to help you get ready for surgery and know what to expect during your hospital stay and your recovery at home.



Please bring your binder with you to the hospital on the day of surgery. Your healthcare providers will refer to it throughout your hospital stay. Also bring it to all of your outpatient doctor's appointments.

- You will get instructions on how to download a free MP3 guided imagery program. If you do not have a device to listen to the program, please ask for a CD version. Don't forget to bring your audio player with you to the hospital on your surgery date.

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 the needed paperwork before you are admitted to the hospital. Cleveland Clinic will bill your insurance company for the charges associated with your stay.



Any balance not covered by your insurance company will be billed to you. If you have any insurance-related questions or concerns, please call the **Financial Counselor** at **216.444.6001** or toll-free **800.223.2273, ext. 46001**.

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

**216.444.2148 or 800.223.2273
ext. 42148**

**8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday through Friday**

IMPORTANT

- If you smoke, **STOP NOW**. Please see below for a list of resources to help you stop using tobacco.
- **You may need to stop taking certain medications, including anticoagulants (blood thinners) before surgery.** Ask your Cleveland Clinic doctor about changes you need to make to your medications. **DO NOT stop taking any medication without first talking to your doctor.**
- **If you get a cold or the flu** within a few days of your surgery, call your surgeon's office and ask to speak with a nurse. If you are calling in the evening or on a weekday, call 800.223.2273 and ask to speak to the vascular surgery resident on call.

Tobacco Treatment Resources: Where to Get Help



- **Cleveland Clinic Tobacco Cessation Programs** Cleveland Clinic offers shared medical appointments and a tobacco cessation course to help you quit using tobacco. **Shared Medical Appointments** are billed through your insurance and available at South Point Hospital. Call 440.312.7760 to schedule an appointment.
- The **Tobacco Cessation Course** is free, and is available at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Health Center (216.956.5151) and the Langston Hughes Community Health & Education Center (440.465.9571).
- Cleveland Clinic Preventive Cardiology and Rehabilitation:
216.444.9353 or 800.223.2273 ext. 49353
- **Ohio Tobacco Quitline:**
800.QUIT.NOW (800.784.8669)
- contact your local chapter of the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, or the American Lung Association for support and resources.
- There are many government resources online to help you quit using tobacco, including the Centers for Disease Control, National Cancer Institute, National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, World Health Organization Tobacco Free Initiative, and many more.

No Smoking Policy: Because we care about your health and the health of our patients and visitors, **smoking is not allowed anywhere on any of the Cleveland Clinic campuses.** This restriction includes smokeless tobacco products such as e-cigarettes and vaporizing systems. We strongly encourage you to stop smoking.

Surgery Scheduling

Cleveland Clinic performs 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. We sometimes need to reschedule planned surgeries to treat patients who need emergency surgery. If this happens, we will reschedule your surgery as soon as possible.

If you need to reschedule your surgery, please call your surgeon's office as far in advance as possible. You may also call the **Surgical Scheduling Office at 216.444.2148**.

If you have an emergency the night before surgery and need to reschedule, call the hospital operator at **800.223.2273**, and ask to speak to the vascular surgery resident on call.

My surgery is scheduled for:

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



9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44195
www.clevelandclinic.org/heart

Hearing Impaired (TTY) Assistance: 216.444.0261

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Rev. 2/18