

Your Surgical Experience

What to expect before, during and after surgery



Thank you for choosing Norton Brownsboro Hospital for your surgical procedure. You will be cared for by a highly skilled surgical care team in our state-of-the-art center.

Our goal is to keep you and your family comfortable and well-informed before and after surgery.

This flyer will help you understand what to expect on the

day of your surgery and explain some features of our hospital if you will be staying with us after your surgery.

Ask any member of your care team if you have questions about your experiences or procedure.

What to expect before surgery

You will meet many members of your care team before surgery. It is important for you to know the role of each member of the team:

Patient care associate (PCA) – Your PCA will assist your registered nurse in providing care and doing assessments.

Registered nurse (R.N.) – Your registered nurse will prepare you for surgery, start your IV, check your vital signs and document your medical history.

Anesthesia provider – Your anesthesia provider will administer pain medications, anesthesia or a pain block as ordered by your surgeon. He or she also will monitor your vital signs during surgery.

Patient liaison – A patient liaison is located in the surgery waiting area and will update your family during surgery, answer any questions and assist them during their wait.

Before surgery, several members of your care team will perform various tests, check your medical history and take your vital signs. During this time we will gather a great deal of information and ask many questions. All members of your care team need this information to ensure your safety, so you may be asked the same questions multiple times.

As your caregivers work together to prepare for your surgery, it may seem a little overwhelming. Please let us know if you are uncomfortable or need us to explain what is happening.

You will watch a brief video that highlights our surgery center and explains what to expect before and after your procedure. This video gives you a behind-the-scenes look so that you understand what to expect during your time with us.

No one likes to wait, but delays are possible. Your surgery start time often depends on the patient being cared for before you. You and your family will be updated at least every half hour if there is a delay. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

What to expect in the surgical suite

After your preoperative tests and checks are completed, several members of your care team will escort you to the surgical suite. The surgical suite is home to us, but we understand it may seem intimidating to you. Try to relax — you are in good hands and your surgery will be over before you know it! In the meantime, we are always happy to answer any questions you may have about the room or technology.

It will probably feel very cold to you in the surgical suite. You will be placed on a bed designed specifically for surgery. It will seem narrow and your arms will typically be outstretched from your sides. The anesthesiologist and surgical team will make sure you are comfortable and then explain what will happen as you prepare to go to sleep.

During surgery, your family will be updated each hour. In addition, your designated family member or guest will be given a surgery update monitor card. This card explains how to read the large monitors in the waiting area and watch for updates on how the surgery is progressing.



NORTON
BROWNSBORO HOSPITAL

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What to expect before, during and after surgery (*continued*)

What to expect after surgery

When your surgery is complete, you will be taken to the recovery area. Your nurse will monitor your vital signs and pain level as you wake up. For your safety, always ask for help when getting out of bed.

A member of your care team will notify your family when you are comfortable and ready for visitors. The recovery area may have other patients in various stages of recovery, so we ask guests to help us keep noise levels to a minimum as we maintain a peaceful atmosphere.

Outpatient surgery

If you are scheduled for an outpatient procedure, you will go home the same day as your surgery.

After your surgery, a member of your care team will review home care instructions with you and your family/guests before you are discharged. Pay close attention to these instructions, which you will also receive in writing to take home. Anesthesia may affect your ability to remember, so we encourage those who will be assisting you after surgery to carefully review the home care instructions, ask questions and take notes before and after surgery.

If you have any concerns after you arrive home, call your surgeon's office at _____.

Call **911** if you have a medical emergency.

Inpatient surgery

Some procedures require you to stay in the hospital after surgery. This may depend on the type of surgery you are having or the type of care or therapy you will need after surgery.

You will be cared for by highly trained staff and physicians practicing patient- and family-centered care that focuses on your physical and emotional needs as well as the needs of your loved ones.

Getting around the hospital

Restrooms are located on the first floor in the main lobby behind the elevators and on the second floor behind the elevators and next to the coffee service area.

A garden area is located on the third floor, and a chapel is located on the first floor. The garden and chapel are peaceful areas to get away for reflection and relaxation during a stressful day. We encourage your guests to visit these areas.

We want to ensure you and your guests are comfortable. Ask any caregiver if you would like a blanket, eye mask or ear plugs to help you relax. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make your visit more pleasant.

Hospital amenities (first floor)

Cafeteria – Open Monday through Friday, 6:30 to 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed on holidays

Brownsboro Bistro – Open Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed on weekends and holidays

Gift shop – Open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Chapel – Chaplains are available anytime if you or your guests have spiritual requests. Dial **0** to request a chaplain.

ATM – First floor, near the restrooms, behind the elevators

We encourage you and your family to ask questions of any of your caregivers at any time during your stay with us.

Call the Norton Brownsboro Hospital Preoperative Department at **(502) 446-8270** or Pre-admission Testing at **(502) 446-8660** if you have any questions or need additional information about your surgery.

On behalf of the Norton Brownsboro Hospital surgical care team, thank you for choosing our hospital for your procedure.

