



# Questions to ask if you're having surgery

**Going into surgery can be less scary and much easier if you know what questions to ask.**

**Read through these questions and tips to help you prepare for your operation.**



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## **Before surgery**

Tell your doctor and the surgeon about any allergies you have and medicines you take. They need to know this information.

### **Questions to ask your doctor**

- What type of surgery do I need?
- Why do I need this surgery?
- What are the benefits?
- What are the risks?
- Are there choices other than surgery?
- How much will it cost?
- What hospital is the best choice for this surgery?

### **Questions to ask your surgeon**

- What will you do during the operation?
- Who else will be involved and what will they do?
- How long will the surgery take?
- How will I feel after surgery?
- What will I need to do to help me recover?

## **After surgery**

- Make sure you know what you need to do to get better.
- Get a doctor or nurse to write down or print out instructions for you to take home.
- Have a friend or family member write down what your doctors and nurses tell you.
- Get a phone number to call if you have questions when you get home.
- Ask when you need to see the doctor again.
- Make another appointment and write it down.
- Go to your appointment even if you are feeling better to make sure you recover completely.

Remember, your surgeon wants you to feel comfortable going into surgery. So, he or she wants you to ask any questions you have.



We want you to know<sup>®</sup>

