



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ANESTHESIA:

Modern anesthesia techniques are generally safe and well tolerated by most patients. An Anesthesiologist will talk to you prior to surgery and discuss your individual method for anesthesia. It is important that you familiarize yourself with the anesthesia techniques and issues written below so that you may discuss them more fully with your Anesthesiologist. This form has been developed to assist you in making an informed healthcare decision, but it should not be your only source of information in making a decision.

Minor issues experienced from anesthesia may include nausea and vomiting, headache or injury to teeth or dental work. The major techniques and their related issues are outlined below. Although rare, unexpected severe complications can occur and include the remote possibilities of: infection, bleeding, medication reactions, blood clots, loss of sensation, loss of limb function, paralysis, stroke, brain damage, heart attack or possibly death.

It is important for you to understand that these risks apply to all forms of anesthesia and that additional or specific risks are identified below. The anesthetic technique to be used during your procedure is determined by many factors including your physical condition, the type of procedure you are having, your doctor’s preference, as well as your own desire(s).

In some cases, an anesthesia technique that involves the use of local anesthetics, with or without sedation, may not succeed completely. All forms of anesthesia involve some risks and no guarantees or promises can be made concerning the results of your procedure or treatment.

TYPES OF ANESTHESIA:

<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL ANESTHESIA	Expected Result	Total unconscious state, vital signs monitored and maintained, no patient recall.
	Technique	Drug injected into bloodstream, breathed into lungs, or by other routes. Possible placement of a tube into the windpipe.
	Risks (including but not limited to)	Mouth or throat pain, hoarseness, injury to mouth or teeth, awareness under anesthesia, injury to blood vessels, aspiration, pneumonia.
<input type="checkbox"/> MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE (with sedation)	Expected Result	Reduced anxiety and pain, partial or no patient recall.
	Technique	Drug injected into bloodstream, breathed into lungs, or by other routes producing a semi-conscious state.
	Risks (including but not limited to)	An unconscious state, depressed breathing, injury to blood vessels, some degree of awareness.

Additional Information Next Page



ANESTHESIA TYPES CONTINUED:

<input type="checkbox"/> MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE (without sedation)	Expected Result	Measurement of vital signs, availability of anesthesia provide for further intervention
	Technique	None
	Risks (including but not limited to)	Increased awareness, anxiety and/or possible discomfort
<input type="checkbox"/> SPINAL OR EPIDURAL ANALGESIA / ANESTHESIA <input type="radio"/> With Sedation <input type="radio"/> Without Sedation	Expected Result	Temporary decreased or loss of feeling and/or movement to lower part of body, decreased low back pain and/or leg pain
	Technique	Drug injected through a needle placed immediately outside the spinal canal
	Risks (including but not limited to)	Temporary headache, backache, buzzing in the ears, convulsions, infections, persistent weakness, numbness, residual pain, injury to blood vessels, decreased blood pressure
<input type="checkbox"/> INTRAVENOUS REGIONAL ANESTHESIA <input type="radio"/> With Sedation <input type="radio"/> Without Sedation	Expected Result	Temporary loss of feeling and/or movement of a limb
	Technique	Drug injected into veins of arm or leg while using a tourniquet
	Risks (including but not limited to)	Infection, convulsions, persistent numbness, residual pain, injury to blood vessels, some degree of awareness.

As a patient you have the right to have all of your questions answered prior to the induction of anesthesia. Please consult with the staff or physician at any time regarding any issue.