

Preparing for your Same Day Surgery Admission

Dear Patient,

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, we have changed some policies that will impact you during your surgical visit. Rest assured, we are committed to providing you with a safe environment and have taken every precaution to do so.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE YOU VISIT

14 days BEFORE surgery:

- **Fully Vaccinated Patients:** patients who have received three (3) COVID-19 vaccines 14 days or more prior to surgery date **DO NOT** require to self-isolate. DO NOT require presurgical Covid-19 testing.
- **Partially Vaccinated Patients:** patients who have received two (2) COVID-19 vaccines 14 days or more prior to their surgery date **DO NOT** require to self-isolate. Partially vaccinated patients DO require presurgical Covid-19 testing.
- **Unvaccinated Patients:** patients who have not received two (2) COVID-19 vaccines 14 days or more prior to their surgery date **MUST** self-isolate for two weeks (14 days) before surgery. More information on self-isolation is available through Public Health Ontario or your doctor's office. Unvaccinated patients DO require presurgical Covid-19 testing.
- **5 days BEFORE your surgery:** ALL patients who have NOT completed their self-screening as part of their enrollment in SeamlessMD will receive a call from our Surgical Nurses to screen patients for symptoms and/or risk of COVID-19.

Immediately notify your surgeon if you or your household contacts are diagnosed with COVID-19 or develop any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- New or worsening cough
- New or worsening nasal congestion
- New or worsening shortness of breath
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Sore throat
- Known COVID-19 positive

- **4 days BEFORE your surgery: Unvaccinated patients AND partially vaccinated patients will be required to have a pre-appointment negative COVID-19 test.** If you've not had a COVID-19 appointment arranged for you please **WALK** into the **MGH COVID-19 Assessment Centre** between the hours of **8am and 7pm – COVID Assessment Centre is open 7 days a week.**

Should you obtain a COVID-19 test outside of MGH Please ensure you bring a copy of your results with you on day of surgery and/or fax to # 416- 469-6560. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your surgeon's office.

NOTE: patients that have received at least three (3) COVID-19 vaccines 14 days prior to their scheduled surgery date and have passed the self-screening DO NOT require a COVID-19 test.

YOUR SURGERY DATE WILL BE ON: _____

YOUR COVID-19 TEST at MGH if UNVACCINATED OR PARTIALLY VACCINATED (see above for description) is 4 Days prior to your surgery date: _____

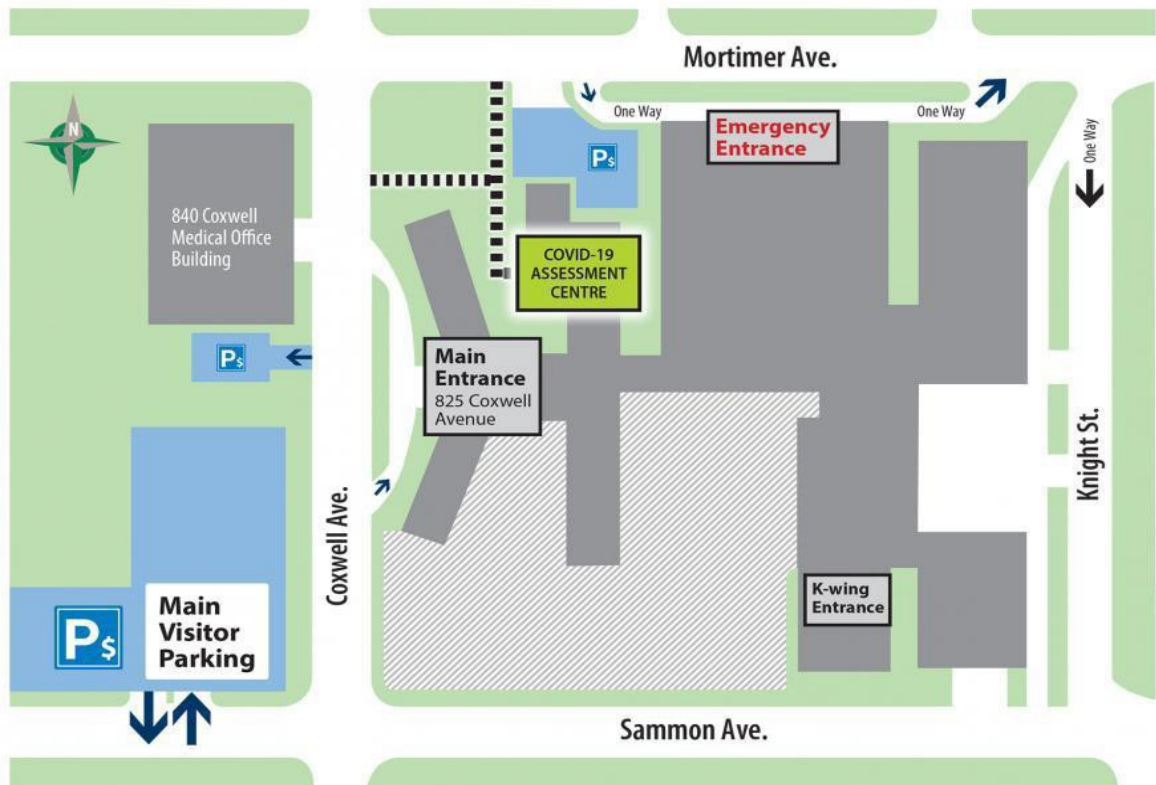
Arrive anytime between the hours of **8a.m. – 7p.m (open 7 days a week)**.

APPOINTMENT CANCELLATION: If, you are symptomatic and/or are rescheduling your surgery for any reason please notify your surgeon's office.

LOCATION & Contact for MGH COVID-19 Assessment Centre – 825 Coxwell Avenue – Entrance is off of Mortimer Avenue, west of the Emergency Department. NOTE: the COVID-19 Assessment Centre cannot be accessed from inside the Hospital. Please see map on the following page. If you need to cancel or rebook COVID-19 appointment, you can email covidbooking@tehn.ca or call the booking line at 416-469-6858 between the hours of 8a.m. – 6p.m.



COVID-19 ASSESSMENT CENTRE



WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE FOR MY SURGERY?

- For your surgery arrival time, please call the Admitting Department the evening prior to your surgery at (416) 469-6381 between the hours of 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. The admitting clerk will tell you what time to arrive at the Hospital so that staff can prepare you for your surgical procedure.
- If your **surgery is on a MONDAY**, please call on the Friday prior to your surgery.

YOU MUST BE AT THE HOSPITAL AT THIS TIME OR YOUR SURGERY MAY BE CANCELLED.

STOP THESE MEDICATIONS BEFORE SURGERY

- For the following blood thinners, you will be advised by a doctor when to stop:
 - Dabigatran (Pradaxa)
 - Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
 - Apixaban (Eliquis)
 - Edoxaban (Lixiana)
- **14 days** before surgery:
 - **STOP** Ticlopidine (Ticlid) and herbal medicines/herbal teas/herbal supplements.
- **7 days** before surgery (or as instructed by your doctor):
 - **STOP** Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix), Vitamin E & Multivitamin.
- **5 days** before surgery:
 - **STOP** Warfarin (Coumadin) (blood thinner) and Ticagrelor (Brilinta)
- **3 days** before surgery:
 - **STOP** all pills for Arthritis/Anti-inflammatory/NSAID medications. **Note:** Celecoxib (Celebrex) & Acetaminophen (Tylenol) may be taken.
 - **STOP** recreational cannabis (marijuana). Medical cannabis (marijuana) may be taken on day before surgery.
- **Night** before surgery:
 - **STOP** alcohol the night before surgery (increases bleeding).

PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED ON THE MEDICATION LIST DURING YOUR PREOPERATIVE ASSESSMENT (PAC) APPOINTMENT.

THE NIGHT BEFORE SURGERY

Can I **EAT** before my surgical procedure?

- NO. Do **NOT** eat any food after midnight. *This is for your safety to ensure there is no solid food in your stomach. If you eat, your procedure will be cancelled.*

Can I **DRINK** before my surgical procedure?

- You are **encouraged** to drink clear fluids until **2 hours prior** to your scheduled procedure. This will keep you well hydrated and more comfortable. Clear liquids only are permitted. Examples of clear liquids are apple juice, water, other clear pulp free juice, sports rehydrating drinks, black coffee or tea **WITHOUT** Milk or Cream, and Gingerale. Do **NOT** have orange juice.
- If you have diabetes **AND** your blood sugar is below 5.0 mmol/L, you may have ½ cup of clear apple juice in order to raise it to at least 5.0 mmol/L. **STOP drinking 2 hours before your arrival time.**

Note: Please **remove** your nail polish, and shower/bathe either the night before of the morning of your surgery.

THE DAY OF SURGERY

- On the morning of surgery, take all of your routinely prescribed medications (with sips of water), unless your physician instructs you otherwise.
- Do **NOT** take any medications that have been stopped (refer to medication list). Do not take your diuretics (water pills) or pills for diabetes. If you are a diabetic on insulin, please refer to the instructions you received during your preoperative assessment appointment.

Visitor Policy (Adults):

Patient Escorts who are not fully vaccinated will not be able to enter the Hospital. Exceptions to the proof of vaccination requirement will apply for people who are escorting patients who require mobility, communication or translation support, and /or have a developmental/intellectual disability, or who are under the age of 18. Please contact your surgeon if you need more information about an exemption.

- ***Pre-Operatively*** – Your vaccinated escort/family member bringing you to your appointment will **NOT** be able to accompany you throughout your surgical visit. ***ONLY*** patients requiring assistance for mobility and/or require translation preoperatively may accompany a patient up to the G6 surgical suite.
- ***Post – Operatively for Same day admissions (overnight):*** Family members **will not be permitted** to accompany the patients from RR to the Inpatient Unit. Patients who are admitted for seven days or less will not have visitors. They can call the unit, or we will offer a Virtual visit. Individuals who will be in the Hospital greater than seven days will have a designated visitor with one alternate. One hour of visiting time daily will be permitted for this population of patients daily.

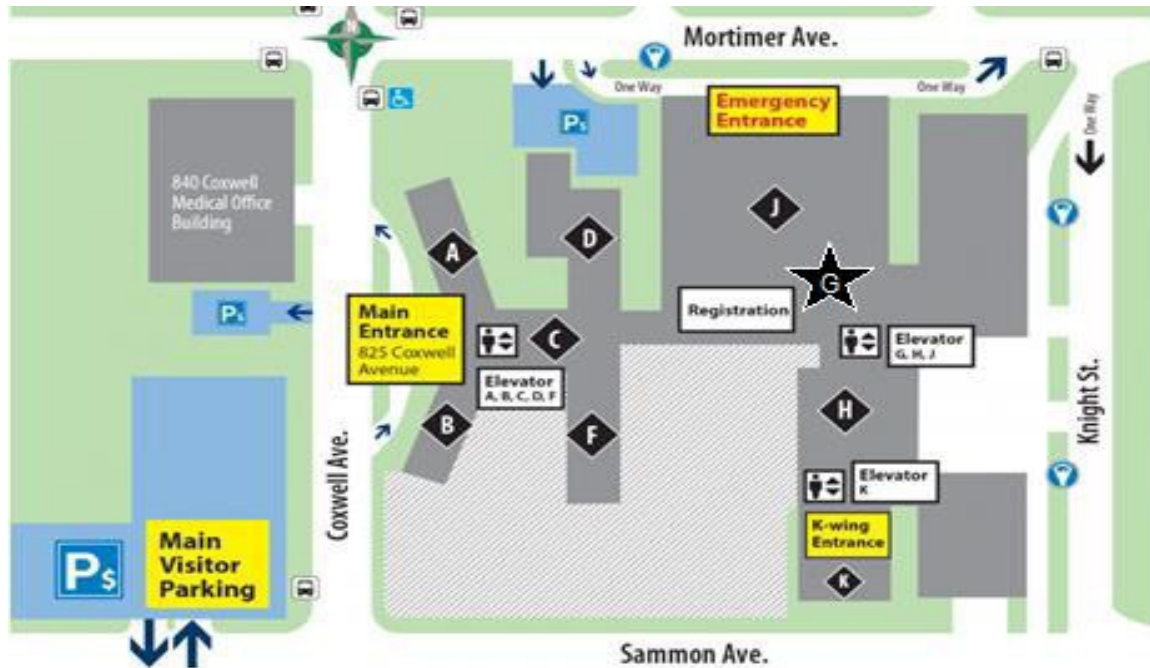
BEFORE YOUR HOSPITAL VISIT

<i>Please BRING items to the Hospital</i>	<i>Please DO NOT BRING</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ontario Health Card. ○ Secondary Insurance Information. ○ ALL medications that you are currently taking including inhalers (puffers) and eye drops. ○ A clean pair of socks. ○ Storage cases for glasses/contacts/hearing aids, which should be removed before surgery. ○ If you are not able to communicate in English and unable to provide your own interpreter, MGH has a phone service available to translate on your behalf. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Valuables – the Hospital does not take responsibility for lost or stolen items. ○ Jewelry/body piercings – remove and leave ALL jewelry/piercings at home, these items cannot be worn during surgery. NOTE: your surgical procedure could be cancelled if not removed. ○ Personal items – any extra belongings that are not required for this visit should be left with your escort (if possible).

FACE MASK POLICY

- Please wear a mask to your appointment. You must put the mask on before you enter the Hospital. Cloth masks are acceptable. Once the mask is in place, please avoid touching your mask or face. If you do not have a mask, you will be given one upon entry.
- Do **NOT** wear disposable gloves as they provide false sense of security and need to be sanitized with hand sanitizer. The hand sanitizer erodes the plastic, rendering plastic gloves useless.
- Avoid using cash. Credit and debit payments are preferred to minimize contact.
- Perform hand hygiene frequently, washing your hands for a minimum of 15 seconds.

CHECK-IN FOR YOUR SURGICAL PROCEDURE Enter the Hospital through the doors located on **Coxwell Avenue** and go to the **Admitting Registration Department** that is located on the main floor, **G wing**. **See map below.**



- You will be screened for COVID-19 in the lobby upon your arrival to the Hospital. Screeners will ask you questions about possible COVID-19 symptoms and your contact history. **If you do not pass the screening assessment, you will not be able to have your surgery and must reschedule with your surgeon’s office via telephone.**
- After you have registered, take the G/H wing elevators to the 6th floor and proceed to the **Perianesthesia Care Unit (PCU) Pre-op Surgery Desk** where you will be checked in. When you exit the elevator, turn right and then left.

RECOVERY IN PERIANESTHESIA CARE UNIT (PCU G6) – 6TH FLOOR

- **Pre-op** – To prepare you for your surgical procedure, your nurse will ask some questions, perform a set of vital signs and start an intravenous (IV).
 - You will be asked to remove **ALL** your clothing and dentures. You will be provided with a hospital gown and disposable footwear. You will then be asked to wait in the Surgical Pre-Operative Waiting room until it is time for your operation.
- **After Surgery** – You will be in the PCU Recovery Room for **1 – 4 hours**, depending on the procedure. Your surgeon and the healthcare team will monitor your progress. Then you will be transferred from PCU Recovery Room to an inpatient bed.

- **Discharge Information** – The healthcare team will notify you of your discharge date ahead of time to allow you to arrange for a responsible person to take you home. Discharge time is 9 a.m. daily. You should plan to have someone stay with you on your first day home.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS	
Pre-operative Assessment Clinic (PAC)	(416) 469 – 6580 ext. 2813 Fax Number: (416) 469 – 6560
Perianesthesia Care Unit (PCU)	(416) 469 – 6580 ext. 6564
Surgical Waiting Room (temporarily closed due to Pandemic)	(416) 469 – 6580 ext. 2343
A5 Surgical Inpatient Unit	(416) 469 – 6580 ext. 6610
B5 Surgical Inpatient Unit	(416) 469 – 6580 ext. 6200