

Hospital Expectations for Neurosurgery Patients

What to Expect During Your Hospital Stay:

- During your hospital stay, a team consisting of your doctor, residents, nurse practitioner or physician assistant, nurses, discharge planner, and social worker will manage your care.
- After surgery, you may need intensive care for an average of 1 night in either the intensive care unit (ICU) or post anesthesia care unit (PACU.) You will then be moved to the Neurosciences floor (Zayad 12). In some cases, you may go directly to the Neurosciences floor after surgery.
- After brain surgery, you may undergo an MRI.
- After spine surgery, you may undergo an x-ray or CT/MRI scan.

Please review the following before your surgery:

1. Prescriptions and insurance cards

- Make a list of the medicines you take, including dosages and how often you take them.
- You will likely receive new medicines at discharge. If you choose, these medicines can be filled at the JHH pharmacy before discharge so that they will be ready to take home with you. **Please make sure that you bring your insurance cards (medical and pharmacy) and form of payment for any prescriptions to be filled at JHH.**

2. Process for rehabilitation placement (if needed)

- During your hospital stay, a physical therapist may evaluate your movement to see if you need rehabilitation after discharge. If inpatient rehabilitation is recommended, the team will notify you and social work will talk to you about how to choose a place. If outpatient rehabilitation or home care is recommended, a discharge coordinator will help to set up your treatment. Some patients will not need rehabilitation after discharge.
- Please note that some procedures may not require a physical therapy evaluation.

3. Transportation from the hospital (for patients going home)

- Patients discharged home cannot be released from the hospital without someone to accompany them. Please arrange in advance for someone to take you home, and have their name and phone number available.
- Rest is essential to your recovery. Our goal is to have you home as soon as possible once you are clinically stable so you can rest. Discharge will likely occur in the morning. Your ride should be available no later than 10 a.m. on the day you leave the hospital.

4. Health Buddy

You will likely need assistance immediately after leaving the hospital. Try to pick a family member or friend who can help make decisions and coordinate your care. Please make arrangements with your chosen person in advance to be sure that they are willing and able to assist you in your recovery.