



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Ospidéal Ollscoile Chorcaí
Cork University Hospital

Day of Surgery Admission Unit

Patient Information Sheet

What is the Day of Surgery Admission Unit?

The Day of Surgery Admission (DOSA) Unit is a pre-operative unit where you are prepared for your operation on the day of your surgery. You will already have had a pre-admission assessment where your fitness for anaesthesia / surgery was assessed.

You will be contacted one or two days before surgery to confirm your admission time.

Where do I go?

The Day of Surgery Admission Unit is located in the same department as the Pre-admission Assessment Clinic. Use the main hospital entrance, **first go to the Admissions Department** which is located in the main foyer of the hospital.

Following admission the staff will direct you to the Day of Surgery Admission Unit. At the end of the main concourse take the lift to the Ground (G) floor. Exit the lift and follow the sign for the Day of Surgery Admission Unit. Check in with the receptionist to let us know you have arrived. Please arrive on time for your appointment.

What should I bring with me?

- All medications you are currently taking (tablets, eye drops, inhalers etc.) in their original packaging.
- Reading glasses/ hearing aids/dentures/prosthesis/hairpieces if worn.
- You may wish to bring a book/newspaper/magazine to read while waiting.
- It is important that you do **not** bring any valuables. The Hospital/Hospital insurers do not accept responsibility for accidental loss of, or damage to patient's valuables e.g. money, dentures, hearing aids, jewellery and other personal belongings.
- Your property can be brought to the ward after your surgery if you are staying overnight.

Can someone come with me?

You may be accompanied by a relative or friend. As space is limited we may need to ask them to sit in the waiting area during peak admission times. Your relative or friend will be given the contact number, name and location of the ward you will be returning to post-operatively.

On the day of surgery

- Have a bath or a shower before you come into hospital.
- Do not put on any make up and remove any nail varnish, false nails false tan and piercings.
- If you are taking medications the Pre-op Assessment Nurse will have provided you with specific instructions regarding these.

Nothing to eat or drink – fasting (“Nil by mouth”)

You will be given clear instructions about fasting. It is important to follow these. When you should stop eating and drinking depends on the time of your surgery and the type of anaesthetic you are having.

If your admission time is before 1pm

- Eat no food after midnight the night before
- No drinks to be taken after midnight the night before, with the exception of *a) still water, b) black tea and c) black coffee*
- Still water, black tea, or black coffee may be taken up to 2 hours before your admission time
- Please note that if you add even a small amount of milk to your tea/coffee, this will require your surgery time to be changed, or possibly re-scheduled to another day

If your admission time is after 1pm

- Do not eat any food after 6am.
- You should not eat any heavy meals after midnight the night before.
- You may eat a light breakfast before 6am e.g. tea and toast.
- No drinks to be taken after 6am on the day of admission, with the exception of *a) still water, b) black tea and c) black coffee*.
- Still water and black tea/coffee may be taken up to 2 hours before your admission time

What will happen on the day of my operation?

Once you arrive at the Day of Surgery Admission Unit, please report to the reception desk.

Following this the nurse will prepare you for theatre and check your temperature, pulse and blood pressure.

You may be seen by members of the surgical/anaesthetic team in this unit prior to your transfer to theatre.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask the doctor or nurse.

Your property bag/case will be labelled with your name and hospital number. The Day of Surgery Admission unit staff will transfer your property to the ward to where you will be cared for after your operation once you have gone to theatre.

Please be advised to bring with you the minimal belongings.

Going to theatre

When the theatre staff request that you transfer to the theatre reception area you will be asked to put on a theatre gown.

You will be escorted on foot by a member of the nursing staff to this area.

If you are unable to walk the short distance, a wheelchair/trolley will be available.

When your operation is finished, you will stay in the recovery area where you will be made comfortable before being transferred to your post-operative ward.

What if I need to contact the Day of Surgery Admission Unit?

If you are unable to attend for any reason please telephone the Unit:

Tel: 021-4920307 and DOSA 021 4934533

Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm.