1. Aspirin, Coumadin, and Ticlid are blood thinners that may increase the risk of bleeding during surgery. Depending on the reason you are taking these medications, you may be asked to stop taking them around the time of your surgery. Your doctor has discussed this with you and recommends that you:

- Keep taking your Coumadin as normal.
- Keep taking aspirin as normal.
- Stop taking aspirin for 7 to 10 days prior to surgery. Take Tylenol instead if you need something for headache or pain.
- Other: ________________________________.

Make sure that any other doctors involved in your care are aware of these changes.

2. If you are taking non-steroidal pain relievers – such as Motrin, Advil, Naprosyn, or Ibuprofen – let us know during your consult visit. Most times, these drugs should be stopped 2 days before surgery.

3. If you are taking medications, bring them with you. Unless your doctor directs otherwise, you may take your medications as usual.

4. It is okay to eat breakfast on the day of surgery. You will have time for lunch if your procedure is still in progress. Feel free to bring a sack lunch and/or snacks. There are also places at UWMC where you may purchase lunch and snacks.
5. If your surgery is for treatment of skin cancer, you may need to spend several hours at the clinic. Bring a book, crossword puzzles or something to do with you. You will be waiting after each layer of tumor is removed and checked in the lab. It is best not to plan other appointments for the day of surgery.

6. Driving for the first 24 hours after surgery is discouraged. Someone should come with you to drive you home. Sometimes even after a minor procedure, a patient will not feel up to driving. Bleeding after surgery is rare. If it happens while driving, it is highly likely to distract you and may make you a dangerous driver.

7. Sometimes surgery can be more extensive than expected. If you are from out of the area, we suggest you stay overnight locally. Staff can assist with lists of nearby hotels and motels, which have discounted rates for our patients.

8. Wear comfortable clothing that does not need to be pulled over your head to remove.

9. If you are not able to keep your scheduled appointment, please call 206-598-6647 at least 24 hours prior to your appointment.