

Day of Surgery

For patients having weight loss surgery

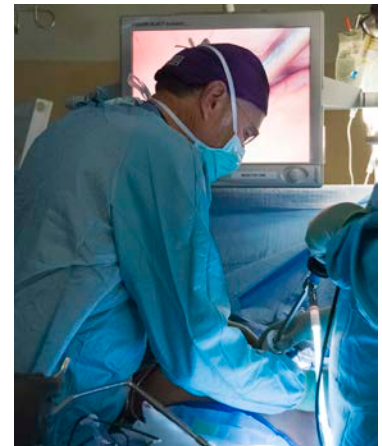
This section of the Guide to Your Weight Loss Surgery explains what to expect on the day of your surgery.

Arriving at the Hospital

On the day of your weight loss surgery, come to the Surgery Center reception desk on the 2nd floor of the Surgery Pavilion to be admitted.

At this time, you will:

- Fill out forms.
- Change into a hospital gown.
- Have your vital signs checked.
- Be weighed to make sure your pre-surgery diet was successful.
- Have an *intravenous* (IV) line placed in your arm or in another site. This IV will be used to give you fluid and medicine during and after surgery.



Your weight loss surgery will take about 3 to 4 hours.

Preparation

Next, you will see your anesthesiologist and other members of the health care team that will be caring for you over the next several hours.

Your health care team will ask questions about your health, any other experiences you have had with surgery and anesthesia, and how you respond to pain medicines. You may be asked some questions more than once, but each of your providers must learn about your medical history so that they can provide the best and safest care for you.

This is also a good time for you to ask any questions you have.

This part of preparation takes about 2 hours. You may have a family member or friend with you for support during much of this time. When you move to the room next to the operating room, where preparations are completed, we will ask your support person to go to the waiting room off the 2nd floor skybridge that connects the Surgery Pavilion with the main hospital.

After Surgery

Gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy surgery takes about 3 to 4 hours. Gastric band surgery takes 1 to 2 hours. When your surgery is over, your surgeon will meet briefly with your family or friends in the waiting room.

You will be in the recovery room for 1 to 3 hours right after surgery. You will be watched closely during this time.

In the recovery room:

- Your vital signs will be checked often to make sure you are recovering as expected.
- You may feel confused as you are waking up.
- You will still have your IV in place, and you will be receiving oxygen.
- You will have wraps on your lower legs that gently inflate with air and squeeze to help with blood flow to prevent blood clots. These are called *sequential compression devices* (SCDs).
- You may have a tube in your throat to help with breathing.

Also, if you had gastric bypass surgery:

- You will have a catheter (tube) to drain urine from your bladder.
- You may have tubes for draining fluids from your abdomen.

Your Hospital Stay

When you leave the recovery room, you may be moved directly to your private room, where you will be for the rest of your hospital stay.

If you need to be watched more closely when you leave the recovery room, you will be moved to the intensive care unit (ICU) for the next 24 to 48 hours.

- Gastric bypass patients will most likely be in the hospital for 2 to 3 days.
- Gastric banding and sleeve gastrectomy patients should expect to be in the hospital overnight and be discharged the next morning.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC clinic staff are also available to help.

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