

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: VI-102 PRE-ANESTHESIA EVALUATION UNIT VISIT	POLICY #: 1141
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PURPOSE: To provide guidelines regarding what the patient can expect during the Pre- Anesthesia Evaluation Unit visit.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Patients will be evaluated prior to receiving anesthesia for surgery or a procedure to assure optimal health and to decrease perioperative morbidity and mortality. The evaluation may necessitate measures such as testing, referral to primary care, and appropriate patient teaching. Once the patient is cleared by anesthesia, the patient will be scheduled for the procedure.

PROCEDURE:

A. PRE- ANESTHESIA EVALUATION VISIT:

1. Prior to the patient being scheduled for surgery or a procedure, the patient will receive a phone call from the Scheduler to schedule an appointment. The Pre-Anesthesia Evaluation Unit-hours for evaluating patients are from-08:00- 1300. In some prearranged instances, the patient may have their Pre-Anesthesia evaluation scheduled the morning of surgery.
2. Prior to the Pre-Anesthesia Evaluation Unit visit, the patient will register for financial clearance
3. Upon arrival to the Pre-Anesthesia Evaluation Unit:
 - a) The patient will receive information on: Patients' Rights and Responsibilities, Advance Directives and Patient's Concerns and Grievances.
 - b) Obtain information regarding patients Advance Directive and document status.
 - c) Vital signs and oxygen saturation height and weight are obtained. If the evaluation is obtained in the Pre-Anesthesia Evaluation Unit, the patient is directed to fill out an Outpatient Health Questionnaire.

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: VI-102 PRE-ANESTHESIA EVALUATION UNIT VISIT	POLICY #: 1141
	VERSION: 2

- d) Any previous and relevant patient data (e.g., EKG, Lab results, Chest radiographs, consultations) will be available to the anesthesia provider at the time of the pre-anesthesia evaluation in the electronic medical record.

B. PRE- ANESTHESIA EVALUATION UNIT PATIENT ASSESSMENT:

The patient is to be given a pre- anesthesia assessment by an RN / LVN who can assist with the identification of any health problems that may affect the care of the patient.

A health history will be obtained (components include but are not limited to):

- Previous Surgery
- Previous anesthetic history
- Medication including dose, route and frequency of administration
- Allergies and sensitivities
- Presence of external or implanted medical devices
- Sensory limitations
- Pain assessment
- Substance use/abuse
- Patient safety needs
- Cultural/language, personal beliefs/restrictions

1. GOALS

- a. The nurse is to provide assistance to the patient / patient's family/ significant others regarding:
- (a) Any psychosocial needs they may have
 - (b) Pre-op, intra-op, post-op and discharge teaching.
 - (c) Pain management

All of the above are done to assist in providing the patient with a positive surgical experience.

- b. Ensure the delivery of comprehensive and individualized nursing care to all Pre-Anesthesia Evaluation Unit patients, including the patient's family and/ or significant others.

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: VI-102 PRE-ANESTHESIA EVALUATION UNIT VISIT	POLICY #: 1141
	VERSION: 2

- c. Patient, family and/or significant others and the nurses must jointly plan and implement patient care.
- d. Provide a safe, comfortable and health promoting environment with an emphasis on patient, family and/ or significant other education.
- e. Provide a collaborative multidisciplinary approach to patient care.
- f. Function as the patient's advocate in safeguarding their human dignity and legal rights as outlined in the Patient's Bill of Rights.
- g. Provide patients with the information, explanations, and support necessary to accept surgical/ procedural intervention and the associated nursing care.
- h. PRE- OPERATIVE TEACHING:
 - 1) The identified needs of the patient, family members, and significant others will be identified and the corresponding teaching documented.
 - 2) All patients are to be given:
 - (a) Written pre-op instructions regarding what they are required to do prior to surgery, such as the time of arrival, and where to report on the morning of surgery.
 - (b) Printed instructions that an adult needs to be present to provide transportation home or accompany the patient if public transportation is used. Patient is instructed that surgery will be cancelled and rescheduled if this is not adhered to.
 - (c) Information about Advanced Directives.

2. PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY:

At the completion of the Pre- Anesthesia Evaluation Unit visit, the patient is asked to complete a Patient Satisfaction Survey. Both English and Spanish translations are available. This information will be collected and a quarterly report will be given to the Chief of the Anesthesiology Department. (See attached copy)

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SUBJECT: VI-102 PRE-ANESTHESIA EVALUATION UNIT VISIT	POLICY #: 1141
	VERSION: 2

REFERENCES:

2012-2014 Perianesthesia Nursing Standards, Practice Recommendations and Interpretive Statements

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