

# Welcome to the Pre-Admission Anesthesia Clinic



## Patient and Family Education

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## What is Anesthesia?

Anesthesia means 'loss of sensation'. It can be a simple local anesthetic injection to numb a small part of the body, or can involve the use of powerful medication which causes a loss of consciousness.

## Pre- Admission Anesthesia clinic

**The reason for visiting our clinic is to ensure that your overall medical condition is the best it can be prior to receiving anesthesia and surgery.**

- You are invited to a pre-assessment clinic a few weeks or days before your surgery/procedure.
- Your vital signs (blood pressure, pulse and respiratory rate), weight and height will be checked.
- You will be asked questions about your health and your healthcare provider – either an anesthesiologist or specialized anesthesia nurse – will assess your airway and listen to your heart and lungs.
- Tests will be organized if necessary.



## Get to know your healthcare team:

- At the clinic you may meet an anesthetist (a physician specializing in anesthesia) or a specialized anesthesia nurse who will look at the investigation results and may ask you more questions about your health. He or she may need to listen to your chest with a stethoscope, examine your neck and jaw movements, and look in your mouth. They will also check your blood pressure, pulse, respiration rate, weight and height.
- The anesthesia plan will be discussed with you and you will be asked to sign an informed consent form for the selected anesthesia option(s).

## The Anesthesia Patient Educator

**A registered nurse specializing in anesthesia patient education is responsible for:**

- Assessing your understanding and educational needs.
- Providing you with clear and complete information about anesthesia before, during and after surgery .
- Involving you in health decisions related to you care.
- Discussing the selected anesthesia option(s) with you.
- Using various teaching tools: printed materials, leaflets, posters, flip charts and videos.