

PLEASE RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS, HOSPITAL and THEATRE FEES

Please check with your Health Fund before admission to verify your level of cover and potential gap fee. If you have **Private Health Insurance** you will be required to pay any excess or co-payments you have prior to admission. The amount you will pay will depend on the Health Insurance Fund you belong to and your level of cover.

If you are Uninsured or it is a **Self-funded procedure** you will be required to pay the estimated costs of your Hospital and Theatre fees 24 hours prior to admission. You can obtain an estimate of the cost by ringing Patient Accounts on (08) 9340 6318.

Defence Personnel, Motor Vehicle and Workers Compensation patients will be covered for a shared room. There will be an additional charge for a private room. The Hospital has EFTPOS facilities and major credit cards are welcome. On admission we will request authorisation so we can arrange payment of your account directly to the Hospital from your Health Fund.

You may receive an account after discharge for additional costs (pharmacy, prosthetics etc) incurred during your stay at Bethesda Hospital.

RADIOLOGY & PATHOLOGY SERVICES

These services are partly covered by Medicare. You will receive separate accounts for these services which will be sent to you following your discharge.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

There may be a charge for using ambulance services for patient transfer to or from home, to hospital and inter-hospital transfers. Please check with your Health Fund and /or St Johns Ambulance to verify your cover.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care and chaplaincy services are available; please speak to your nurse if you require such services.

PRE ADMISSION NURSE

Prior to your admission you may be contacted by the Pre Admission Nurse to answer any questions or concerns you have and to confirm your clinical history to ensure that we are fully prepared for your stay.

WHAT TO BRING TO HOSPITAL

- Health fund membership details, Medicare and pension card
- Letters or referrals / forms from your doctor
- **All current medication and a letter from your GP or Pharmacy listing your current medication**
- Relevant x-rays
- Crutches if requested by your doctor
- Glasses/contact lenses with cases and if appropriate your hearing aid.

VALUABLES

The Hospital can not accept responsibility for the security of personal items; therefore, we strongly recommend that you leave all valuables and jewellery at home.

INPATIENT DISCHARGE

We require all inpatients to be discharged from the Hospital by 9.00 am

You will receive instructions specific to your procedure from nursing staff. Please follow these instructions.

Ask the nursing staff if you have any questions or concerns. Depending on your procedure you may receive a follow-up phone call.

ROOM ALLOCATIONS

Whilst every effort will be made to provide the accommodation requested, room allocation will depend on room availability on the day of admission. Where a shared room is requested and a private room is allocated additional payments may apply.

DAY SURGERY PATIENTS

Day Surgery patients will be in hospital for between 3 - 6 hours depending on the procedure. You do not need sleeping attire. Refreshments will be offered before discharge. Please ensure you have a responsible adult to accompany and drive you home.

It is required that a responsible adult remain with you overnight. (This may not apply to some patients who have particular types of local anaesthetic procedures) Medications delivered to the hospital on behalf of DPU patients will incur a fee payable prior to discharge.

INFECTION PREVENTION INFORMATION

Before admission you may wish to discuss with your doctor ways to reduce your risk of infection by reducing or quitting smoking and eating a balanced healthy diet. You should also tell your doctor if you have a cold, fever or have been unwell before your surgery.

Diabetic patients should discuss control of their blood sugar levels with their doctor to assist in reducing the risk of infection after surgery.

Pre-operative showering

Before admission to hospital it is recommended that patients shower, use a clean towel to dry and then dress in clean clothes. Do not use deodorant or talc.

Depending on the type of procedure, some patients will be required to have additional shower(s) with an antiseptic soap solution once admitted to the ward.

During your hospital stay

Wash hands carefully after going to the toilet / bathroom etc. Visitors and staff should also clean their hands before attending to your care.

Keep all dressings clean and dry and tell the nurse if dressings become loose or wet, please inform the nurse of any pain, redness or swelling.

Follow your doctor's instructions regarding breathing, leg exercises and getting out of bed.

It is advised your friends and relatives do not visit you if they are unwell.