

# QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR SURGEON

- What is the surgery called?
- Why do I need it?
- What are the benefits and success rate of this surgery?
- Are there alternatives, e.g., a different type of surgery, non-surgical options?
- Should I get a second opinion?
- What are the side effects, risks and potential complications?
- Are there any other downsides to this type of surgery?
- What will happen if I delay or don't have the operation?
- Who will perform the operation and how many times have they done this surgery?
- How many hours will the operation take?
- How is the surgery done, e.g., laparoscopy, open incision?
- What type of anesthesia will be used, e.g. local, regional, general?
- What will I need to do before the operation, e.g., lab tests, fasting, medication changes?
- Are there things I can do before the operation to help with surgery and healing?
- How painful is it healing from this type of surgery?
- How long is the hospital stay?
- What can I expect during the recovery phase?
- How long will I need to be off work?
- What kind of help will I need at home, if any?
- What medications will I need to take afterward? Can I get the prescriptions pre-filled now?
- Will I need any special therapy/rehab after the operation, e.g., physio?
- Will I need any special equipment after, e.g., crutches, walker, brace?
- How will the operation impact daily activities, e.g., driving, bathing, exercising, household chores, sexual activity?
- How long will it be until I'm fully recovered and back to normal?
- How much will it cost?

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