

Anaesthetics

Information for Patients with Parkinson's Disease Coming to Hospital for Surgery

Preparing for your operation

- Keep an up-to-date medication record. It should include all the medication you are currently taking (not just for Parkinson's) and what time you take each dose. You can use your repeat prescription from your GP as a reference.
- When you attend a pre-operative assessment clinic tell the nurse that you have Parkinson's disease and that you need your medication at the times they have been prescribed for you.
- Contact your community Parkinson's disease nurse specialist before admission to discuss medication management during your stay.
- Sometimes, a nurse in the pre-operative assessment clinic may contact your Parkinson's disease consultant for advice on your medication schedule. The consultant may decide that your medications need to be changed for some time after the surgery.

On the day of surgery

- Take your medications with you when you go to hospital. Make sure that you have at least a 24 hour supply.
- Your medication should be kept in its original packaging. Nursing staff will not be able to administer your own medication if it is not possible to identify what it is. Ensure your medication is pharmacy - labelled.
- Tell staff you have Parkinson's and how important it is to get your medication on time. Explain to staff what medication you take. Show them your medication record.



Patient Information

- You will be advised not to eat or drink anything before your surgery ('nil by mouth'). **When you are nil by mouth for surgery you must still have your Parkinson's medication.** You are allowed to take your medication with a sip of water (two tablespoons).
- You will usually meet your anaesthetist on the ward before your surgery. It is very important that your anaesthetist knows you have Parkinson's and what medication you take for the condition. They will discuss your Parkinson's symptoms with you and how they may affect you during surgery.

If you need any further information please ask your Parkinson's Nurse or the specialty carrying out your surgery.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please ask and we will do our best to meet your needs.

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