

Going Home After Your Procedure With a General Anesthetic

This handout offers information on how to manage when you go home after having a procedure with a general anesthetic (a medication to put you to sleep).

What you need to know

- You need someone to drive you home and stay with you for 24 hours.
- You may feel weak. This is normal. Rest when you get home.
- You may have nausea (upset stomach), dizziness or headache for up to 24 hours after your procedure. This is normal.
- Do not drive for 24 hours after your procedure.
- Do not make any legal or financial decisions for 48 hours after your procedure.
- Take acetaminophen (also called Tylenol) for any mild pain or discomfort you have. Your radiation oncologist may also give you a prescription for a stronger pain medication.

Go to the Emergency Department at the hospital closest to you if you:

- Vomit for more than 6 hours
- Have shortness of breath
- Are not able to urinate
- Faint after your procedure
- Have a fever above 38.3° C/100.9°F at any time or above 38.0° C/100.4°F for more than an hour

If you have a problem or concern about a symptom or side effect from your cancer treatment:

1. Call your primary nurse at the cancer centre from Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4 pm, (except on holidays). Use the phone number your primary nurse gave you.
2. Contact CareChart Digital Health from Monday to Friday, 4 pm to 8:30 am and anytime on weekends and holidays for symptom management support.

Talk to a nurse using one of these options:

- Call the after-hours telephone line at 1-877-681-3057.
- Request a video call by going to www.carechart.ca.
- Use the CareChart Digital Health App. This App is available to download for iOS or Android devices.

Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department at the hospital closest to you for a medical emergency. Talk to a member of your healthcare team if you have questions or do not understand any of the information in this handout.