



Reproductive Partners Fertility Center-San Diego

Reproductive Partners Fertility Center | La Jolla, Inc.
9850 Genesee Avenue # 800, La Jolla, California 92037
Tel: (858)-552-9177 Fax: (858)-552-9188

TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND DIRECTED FOLLICLE ASPIRATION

Preparing for Your Egg Retrieval

It is very important to follow the instructions provided to you by your physician and nurses regarding preparation during the days leading up to your egg retrieval. You may put yourself at risk for complications or cancellation of your procedure if the instructions are not followed correctly.

Pre-Op: A few days prior to your egg retrieval, you will meet with your surgeon to make sure that you are able to safely undergo surgery and receive anesthesia. A nurse will be discussing any medications you will need to take before and after your procedure. You will also be given a time to arrive and information about LJWSC. You will need to fill out various forms including your surgical consent and a Pre-Anesthesia Questionnaire at this appointment (see the Pre-Op forms tab for a copy of this document). A nurse from the surgery center will also contact you the day before your procedure to give you additional information as well as answer any questions you may have.

Medications: You will be instructed about which medications to discontinue and which medications you will need to continue taking through the day of your surgery. You should inform the surgery center RN about which medications you have taken in the past 6 months and of any medications you were asked to take on the day of your procedure. Please ask your MD if you are unsure what medications you should continue to take. Your primary RN will order any medications that you may need after your procedure. Please make sure you have picked up these medications before your procedure and have confirmed that they are the correct ones.

Pre-Operative Fasting: You will be required to refrain from eating and drinking for at least 8 hours prior to your surgery. The restriction is enforced to prevent any undigested food or fluids from moving up into your mouth and getting into your airway while you are under anesthesia. This can cause serious damage to your lungs and severe complications during your surgery. Please follow the instructions given by your nurse regarding when you will need to stop eating and drinking. Your surgery may be cancelled if you do not comply with these directions.

General Health: It is important that you are in good general health before receiving anesthesia. Please inform the pre-op nurse or anesthesia provider if you have experienced any cold or flu symptoms in the days leading up to your egg retrieval.

The Day of Your Egg Retrieval

The day of surgery can be stressful for many patients. It is normal to feel some anxiety and nervousness prior to your procedure. Spend a little bit of time preparing for the day of surgery so you can limit any anxiety. It is important to know where you are going, what time you will need to be there, and bring any important items with you (e.g., picture ID, socks, etc.).

Arrival: You will be asked to arrive 30 minutes prior to your procedure to meet with a pre-op nurse, your anesthesia provider, and surgeon. It is very important that you come at the correct time in order to ensure that your case is not delayed. You should contact our center immediately if you are running late.



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Please have a valid form of **identification** with you (i.e., Driver's License, Passport, Military ID) the day of your surgery and present it to our staff upon arrival.

Transportation: You are required to have a **ride home** after receiving anesthesia. Your ride does not have to stay at the surgery center while you are having your procedure but must arrive prior to your discharge to receive your discharge instructions and drive you home. Average length of stay is 2–4 hours. You must have someone available to be with you for 24 hours after your procedure for your safety.

Cleansing: You will be able to bathe the morning of your egg retrieval but should avoid wearing lotion, make-up, or any jewelry to your surgery. If you choose to wash your hair, please make sure that it is dry when you arrive so that we can keep you as warm as possible while you are in surgery.

Clothing: Please wear warm, comfortable clothing to your surgery. You will be asked to change into proper surgical attire at the time of your pre-op. You may be allowed to leave your bra and a pair of socks on in the OR. Your remaining belongings will be kept in a secure area and returned to you prior to discharge.

Medications: If there are any oral medications that you were told by your MD to take on the morning of surgery (e.g., blood pressure meds, neuro meds, cardiac meds) you may do so with a minimal sip of water. Remember that you will **not be allowed to eat or drink anything at least 8 hours prior to your procedure** so please consult with your physician if you have any medications that you need to take with food.

Contact lenses: If you are a contact lens wearer, please remove them and wear glasses to your procedure. You will be able to wear your glasses into the OR for your safety if necessary. You may also choose to bring a case and remove your contact lenses before your surgery if needed.

Anesthesia Administration: The anesthesia medications that you will receive will be given intravenously. An IV will be started in the OR. It is helpful to inform the anesthesia provider if you have had difficulty with previous IV insertion or blood draws in the past. The type of anesthesia you will receive is called Monitored Anesthesia Care which is an intravenous sedation. You will not have general anesthesia for this procedure.

Following Your Egg Retrieval

After your surgery, it is common to feel sleepy and possibly experience mild pain, nausea, and slight dizziness. It is important to not schedule any business or social activity directly following your procedure to give yourself time to rest completely. Most patients tend to feel fine the day after their procedure and are able to go back to work. It may take a couple days for you to feel better and it is important to take it easy until you feel ready.

Accompaniment: A responsible adult must be available to drive you home and stay with you for 24 hours after your surgery.

Activity: You are encouraged to only engage in light activity and refrain from lifting over 10 pounds in the days following your egg retrieval to allow your body to heal. You will not be allowed to drive or operate any machinery for 24 hours after your surgery due to the anesthesia medications you will be given.



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Pain: It is very normal to have mild to moderate cramping following your retrieval. You will be instructed to take Acetaminophen (i.e., Tylenol) by mouth every 6 hours for pain control. If your pain is not relieved by Tylenol, you may be prescribed a stronger medication and should follow the administration directions carefully.

Unusual Symptoms: It is recommended that you call your doctor if you experience any unusual symptoms including severe nausea and vomiting; persistent and severe pain not relieved by Tylenol or other prescribed pain medication; excessive bleeding; or signs of infection such as chills, fever, or redness. You can contact someone at 858-552-9177 (main number) or 858-793-3852 (Physician on call) regarding any urgencies.

Bleeding: You can expect to have some spotting or minor bleeding following your egg retrieval. This bleeding usually lasts about 3 days following the procedure. Please inform your MD if you experience moderate or heavy bleeding or bleeding that persists longer than 5 days following your surgery.

Diet: You will be allowed to eat and drink shortly after your procedure. Keep your diet light (avoid greasy and spicy foods). We encourage you to drink electrolyte-based fluids (e.g., broths, Vitamin Water, Ensure, Gatorade G2). Your RN may give you specific instructions regarding your diet if you are at risk for hyperstimulation.

Medications: A nurse will review your postoperative medications with your ride and you. Please be sure you understand what you will be taking and when. It is helpful to bring your medications with you to have the nurse show you the medications as she reviews your instructions.

Follow-Up: You will receive a call from our surgery center 1–2 days after your surgery to see how you are recovering. It is important that we are able to get ahold of you to ensure your safety.