



- **Check-in:** Once you arrive at the Vail Valley Surgery Center, you will check in at the front desk. They will place an ID bracelet on you, check your name for correct spelling, and verify your birth date. You will also review information regarding your surgery. Please be sure to read all information before signing it.
- **Pre-op:** You will be called back to the pre-op area to get changed from your regular clothes into a hospital gown. One visitor is allowed to come back with you to the pre-op area. A registered nurse will perform an assessment and you will be prepared for surgery. This may include vital signs, starting an IV, skin prep, and the marking of the operative site. Staff will ask you to tell them your full name and birth date, the surgery to be performed, and the site of operation. Don't be alarmed if you are asked this numerous times. This is just a safety measure and how we make sure everything is correct.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions. We want to make sure you are as comfortable as possible and get all questions/concerns addressed prior to your procedure. By becoming involved and informed in making decisions about your care, you play a vital role in your safety.
- Be aware of staff members washing their hands or using the hand sanitizer. If you don't see them using either of these methods, don't be afraid to ask them if they have cleaned their hands.
- The anesthesiologist will talk to you in the pre-op area about your medical history and general health. They will discuss your options for anesthesia, and any risks there may be. Please be sure to inform them of any medical problems you have and all the medications you take.
- The surgeon will talk to you in the pre-op area. They will discuss the plan of operation and answer any questions you may have. They will also mark and confirm the operative site with a permanent marker. They will ask you what site they are going to operate on
- **Time Out:** Just before the operating room nurses take you back to the operating room, there is a time out performed in the pre-op area. During the time out, two nurses do a safety check to ensure that you are the correct patient and the correct doctor is doing the correct procedure on the correct body part.