

Tomah Health Anesthesia Pre-Operative Consult

Purpose: To evaluate a patient's medical, surgical and anesthetic history to optimize the patient for anesthesia, reduce perioperative risk, improve outcomes and promote clear communication between the health care team.

Timing of Consult: At any point, during the peri-operative process, the Tomah Health Anesthesia Department can be consulted by faxing a printed anesthesia consult to #608-377-8736 or by entering in the order TOMAH HEALTH ANESTHESIOLOGY REFERRAL into EPIC. It is preferred consults be placed at least a week in advance for elective surgeries or at the time of decision for surgery for urgent/emergent cases.

Anesthesia consultations should be requested for the patients with the following conditions, as they often require additional anesthesia considerations:

- BMI 45 or greater
- History of difficult intubation or abnormal airway anatomy. Examples include but are not limited to prior tracheostomy, pharyngeal malignancy/tumor, neck radiation, or previous airway surgery
- History of difficult spinal/epidural placement

Anesthesia consultations are available for any concerns that may affect a patient's anesthetic management. Examples of situations where a consult may be beneficial include:

- Severe or symptomatic pulmonary disease
- Pacemaker/AICD
- Significant or severe cardiac/valvular disease
- MI within the past year
- CVA within the past 6 months
- Coagulopathies/ clotting disorders for patients with planned regional anesthesia
- Presence of implanted spinal hardware (example Harrington rods, spinal cord stimulator) with a planned spinal/epidural anesthetic
- Multiple symptomatic systemic comorbidities