

Important Reminders



The fight against infection starts at home. Be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before and after touching your wound.



If you are a diabetic, talk with your provider about ways to control your glucose before and after surgery.



As soon as you find out you are going to have surgery, we request that you do not smoke. We encourage you to stop smoking even after you are discharged and recovering at home.



North Oaks is a tobacco-free campus. Smoking is not allowed anywhere on North Oaks' campus, including e-cigarettes.



Make sure you know whom to contact if you have questions or problems after you get home.

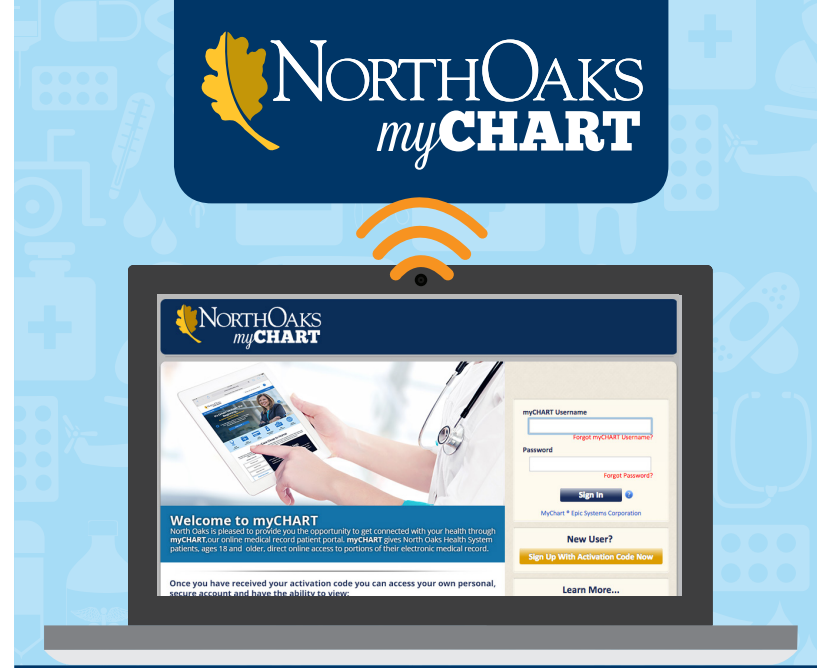


Your expected length of stay is

Your planned discharge location is



The date of your follow-up appointment with the surgeon is



Connect with your health

North Oaks is pleased to provide you the opportunity to get connected with your health through *myCHART*, our online medical record patient portal.

myCHART gives you secure, direct online access to portions of your electronic medical record via computer or smartphone.

With a myCHART account you can:

- Request an appointment
- Request medication refills
- Communicate with your provider and staff
- View your discharge "After Visit Summaries"
- View lab results
- Pay your bill.

How do I get started?

Any North Oaks Health System patient age 18 and over is eligible to open a *myCHART* account. Talk with a staff member during your appointment and you can sign up here today.

If you prefer to sign up at home, look for the activation code listed on the "After Visit Summary" you will receive at the end of your visit. The activation code is required to set up your account and begin using *myCHART*.

Stay connected to your health!

Once your account is active, download the *myCHART* app for on-the-go convenience from your smartphone.



MyChart® Epic Systems Corporation

Learn more at mychart.northoaks.org.

Your Colon Surgery

Thank you for choosing North Oaks Health System.

This brochure contains information to help you have the best possible outcome for your upcoming surgery.

Please be sure to follow all instructions as provided by your health care team.

If you have any questions along the way, please contact your health care provider's office.



The information below will help enhance your recovery after **Colon Surgery**. Please follow these instructions and contact your provider if you have any questions.

	Prior to Surgery	Day of Surgery	Immediately After Surgery	After Surgery: Day One	After Surgery: Day Two Through Discharge	At Home
Safety	You will see a preadmission nurse to review your medical conditions.	Leave your valuables at home.	Do not leave belongings unattended.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow instructions provided by your surgeon. If you have symptoms such as redness, pain at the surgery site, drainage or fever, call your doctor. You will receive a follow-up phone call from a nurse once you are at home.
	The fight against infection starts at home. To prevent infection, make sure you are following the surgeon's orders for oral antibiotics and bowel preparation.	You will be given an antibiotic to reduce the risk of infection.			Plan to have a responsible adult drive you home.	
	Bring a current list of any medications you take at home with you to the hospital. Avoid the use of blood thinners, aspirin and anti-inflammatory medicines.	Medications will be given and compression devices must be worn to reduce blood clots.				
	Make sure your home is safe. Move items that may cause an accident.	Do not wear contact lenses, jewelry, make-up, hair products or nail polish.	Ask your caregiver to make sure the call button and any other necessary items are within reach before they leave you alone.			
Skin	Wear clean clothes.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skin care as directed by your discharge nurse - do not use creams, oils or lotions. Sleep on clean sheets. Wound care per surgeon's directions. Wear clean clothes. Do not sleep with pets.
	Do not shave any body parts for 24 hours. Do not apply oils, creams or lotions.		Keep wound dressing clean, dry and intact. Nurse and/or surgeon will assess wound dressing and change as needed.			
	In the evening, shower with antibacterial soap. One hour after shower, wipe your skin with CHG wipes. Wipes will be provided to you.	CHG wipes will be provided at the hospital.	Wear a clean hospital gown.		You will be given a bed bath or asked to shower. After, use CHG wipes.	
	Sleep on clean sheets.		Linens will be changed.			
	Do not sleep with pets.					
Oral Care						
Brush and floss teeth. Rinse with mouthwash.						
Respiratory	Stop smoking at least 8 hours prior to surgery.	Do not smoke.	Do not smoke. Cough and do deep breathing exercises.			
	Learn about the Incentive Spirometer.		Use the Incentive Spirometer if ordered by physician.			
Nutrition	No solid food or follow nutrition orders as directed by surgeon.	Nothing by mouth (including mints, tobacco and gum).	Diet will be per surgeon's orders.	Your diet will be gradually increased from liquids to solids, depending on how your body reacts.		Eat solid foods.
	Drink plenty of clear liquids.	Drink clear liquids up to 2 hours before scheduled arrival time.	Chew sugar-free gum for at least 10 minutes three times a day.			
	No alcoholic beverages.		Drink clear liquids.	Drink fluids.		
Pain Management	Consult with anesthesia.					
	A plan will be developed to manage your comfort level with fewer opioids so that you are comfortable, less nauseated and not constipated.					
Activity <i>After surgery, do not try to get out of bed on your own. Call for help.</i>	Walk at least 20 minutes 3 times per day until day of surgery.	Continue with normal routine until surgery.	You will be assisted out of the bed to a chair as directed by the hospital staff.	Out of bed to a chair at least 3 hours per day.	Out of bed to a chair 4 to 6 hours per day, including for meals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the amount of time spent out of the bed each day. Continue with instructed therapy exercises and progressive walking at least 4 times daily at home.
			Walk as directed by the hospital staff.	Progressive walking at least 4 times per day.		