

# Dr Philip Dalton

Orthopaedic Surgeon  
Knee, Hip and Shoulder Surgery

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Also visiting:  
Sunnybank Private Hospital  
Mater Private Hospital Redlands

## ESTIMATE OF MEDICAL FEES

My practice follows recommended guidelines on informed financial consent. This means that we aim to explain the approximate costs of surgery to you before you undertake surgery. This will be discussed with you by Dr Dalton at the time of booking your surgery and you will be given written information. Dr Dalton is generally not able to confirm Anaesthetic costs or ancillary costs of XR's, blood tests etc but he can provide you with the contact details for these specialists and you could make your own general enquiries. Your Anaesthetist will contact you directly to explain their fee structure and process prior to surgery.

Please note this is an estimate of fees only as the findings at surgery, the duration of the procedure and the actual procedure undertaken may result in a variation of fees. The variation may be either higher or lower than this estimate. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, it may be necessary to arrange additional medical services, resulting in further charges to you.

Dr Dalton does not have any direct relationship with any of the private health funds. **Gap fees are charged on all procedures.** Private health funds generally cover the cost of your hospitalization (bed and theatre fees) and prosthesis (eg hip and knee replacement parts) but cover very little of your Doctors fees. The gap fee will be discussed with you at the time of booking. Veteran Affairs and WorkCover patients will not incur any out of pocket expenses.

### Fees for surgery can include:

- Surgeon, Surgical assistant and Anaesthetist
- Prosthesis (permanently implanted parts used in operation eg hip replacement)
- Hospital: Theatre fee and Bed fee (usually per night)
- Pathology
- Radiography

### PAYMENT OF SURGICAL FEES

Surgical fees (Surgeon & surgical assistant) are usually billed in the week following surgery. If you are **uninsured** payment is required to be **paid in full at least 3 days prior to the surgical date.**

**Surgical fees are required to be paid in full within 2 weeks of receiving your invoice.** Once the fee has been paid in full my office can issue you with a receipt and then you can claim back from your health fund and Medicare. Please discuss the process of payment with my reception staff.

The invoice from my office will generally include the fee for the Surgical assistant. You will receive a separate account from the Anaesthetist.

If you anticipate difficulty paying your account please contact my room prior to your surgery.

### HOSPITAL EXCESS:

This is determined by your level of health care coverage. It is paid to the hospital prior to or on the day of your surgery. **It is separate to your surgical excess and fees as billed by Dr Dalton.**

**It is advisable that you check with your private health fund prior to your procedure to clarify your level of cover.**