

## **SURGERY INFORMATION:**

### **Process:**

Dr Dalton will discuss with you the expected benefits as well as risks or possible complications of surgery. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and consent forms will be explained and signed. If after leaving the rooms you have further concerns or questions please contact my rooms. If it is simple question we may be able to answer this over the phone. If there are more detailed concerns or questions we may need to make a further consultation time.

On the day of booking surgery you will be given details on the date and approximate time of surgery, when to fast from and when to arrive at hospital. Generally fasting times (**nil by mouth** including **food and water**) are **6 hours** before the expected start of surgery.

### **Post operative appointment:**

On the day of booking your surgery we will give you a post operative appointment time approximately 10-14 days post surgery (hip replacement patients are generally seen 6 weeks post surgery). If there is any confusion about this appointment please call my rooms to clarify.

### **Blood thinning medications:**

There are numerous medications that thin your blood and make you bleed more following surgery. If you are taking any of the following medications or tablets please inform Dr Dalton as they need to be stopped prior to surgery. The tablets include: **warfarin, clexane, clopidigrel (iscover or plavix), aspirin, anti-inflammatory medications (eg nurofen), glucosamine or fish oils.**

### **Fees:**

My practice follows recommended guidelines on informed financial consent. This means that we try 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. Some of the Anaesthetic groups may contact you directly to explain their fee structure and process.

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.

Accounts for surgery will generally be sent out in the week following surgery. If you are not privately insured then we usually require the payment in full before undertaking surgery. We ask that you settle accounts within 2 weeks of receiving the invoice and then claim back from Medicare or your health fund after that. Outstanding accounts are referred to a debt collecting agency. If you are having difficulty paying your account please contact my rooms.

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO KEEP YOUR SURGERY BOOKING OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL MY ROOMS**