

Joint Replacement Anesthesia

LRH Anesthesia Department



Anesthesia Role in Your Surgery

- Our most important goal is to provide you with the safest anesthetic that will keep you comfortable
- Pre-operative evaluation
- Intra-operative management
- Post-operative care



What Are My Options?

- General Anesthesia
- Regional Anesthesia



Regional Anesthesia

- Most common type of anesthesia used for joint replacements at LRH
- How it is performed
- Benefits
 - Lesser incidence of post-operative nausea and vomiting
 - Less groggy after surgery
 - Better pain control
 - Less blood loss
- Risks
 - Less than one percent



Common Questions Regarding Regional Anesthesia

- Will I be awake during my surgery?
 - No, you will still be sedated throughout your procedure
- Do I need to worry about being paralyzed from this technique?
 - Spinal anesthesia is incredibly safe and the chance of a major side effect is very rare. We perform a thorough evaluation to ensure you are a good candidate for this technique.
- Will I get a headache afterward?
 - It is very unlikely (less than one percent chance) due to the small size of the needle.



General Anesthesia

- Typically used for those patients who are not good candidates for a regional anesthetic or for those who choose not to have a spinal.
- How it is performed
- Benefits
 - Good for patients on anti-coagulants (Plavix, Coumadin) who cannot stop them
 - Good for patients with potentially difficult anatomy of the spine
- Risks
 - Airway management, breathing issues and increased risk of nausea and vomiting



What To Expect on Surgery Day

- Meet your CRNA for your case
 - 8 member anesthesia team
- Review your health history
 - Medical chart review
 - Vital signs
 - Brief physical assessment
- Establish your anesthetic plan



Thanks For Your Time!

We look forward to providing you with a safe anesthetic on the day of your surgery.

