



**Consent for Operation, Anesthesia, Procedures
and Medical Services**

Kaiser Foundation Hospital

1. I have agreed to have the following **operation or procedure**:

Colonoscopy – Risks include but are not limited to bleeding, perforation, infection and missed abnormalities, polyps or cancers. The exam does not eliminate the future risk of cancer. Alternatives include stools tests and imaging studies.

Side of the body to be operated on: **Not Applicable.**

The responsible surgeon is _____

2. My doctor _____ has explained to me:

- What the operation or procedure and anesthesia will be like. We have also talked about **the purpose, risks, benefits, and alternatives** to the procedure and plan of care.
- Possible side effects and complications.
- Risks and benefits of other treatment options, including not receiving this treatment.
- Risks and benefits of blood transfusion.
- How likely it is that the desired outcome of the procedure will be achieved.
- The risks, benefits and alternatives include but are not limited to: **Not Applicable.**

3. I understand and agree that:

- Complications or side effects may occur. In rare cases, they could be severe and require additional surgery and/or procedures to treat them.
- The success or result of the surgical procedure has not been promised or guaranteed.
- My surgeon has explained to me how often a blood transfusion is needed during my procedure. If it is expected that I will need a blood transfusion as a result of this operation or procedure, I have the option of donating my own blood ahead of time. I understand that a blood transfusion may be needed under emergency circumstances during my procedure that may not have been planned for in advance. If I want to refuse medically needed transfusions, I will sign a separate Refusal of Transfusion form and put my initials at the bottom of this form.
- I am satisfied with my understanding of the risks and benefits of the procedure and the risks and benefits of alternative treatments as explained to me.
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions. I have been able to express any doubts, fears, or concerns I have about the operation or procedure, anesthesia, and medical services. I am satisfied with the responses I have received to my questions.
- I have read and understood the “Information About Surgical Risks” included with this consent form describing general risks of surgery, anesthesia, and transfusions.

4. I give my consent for this procedure. I authorize the above named surgeon(s) and/or his or her associates to:

- Perform the above-described operation or procedure as well as any additional services which are

considered needed to treat or correct conditions discovered during the procedure or operation. These services may include but are not limited to, the selection and administration of anesthesia and the performance of laboratory and X-ray services.

- Determine the need for and allow persons, including residents and personnel, in the operating room during my procedure for medical and/or educational purposes.
- Dispose of any tissue or part of my body removed during such surgical procedure following customary procedures. This includes the use of such tissue or parts of the body for biomedical research. I understand that the tissue or part of the body removed will not be used for cosmetic surgery purposes, or applications outside of the United States, or by for-profit tissue processors and distributors.

INFORMATION ABOUT SURGICAL RISKS

Surgery today is generally safe, helpful, and often lifesaving. However, any kind of surgical procedure involves some risk, ranging from minor to serious (including the risk of death). It is important to be aware of the following possible risks before you give your consent to the operation that you and your physician are planning. Your body may react in the following ways to surgery:

- 1. Infection.** Whenever a cut or incision is made, it is possible for bacteria or other germs to enter your body. Most of the time the natural defense mechanisms of the body work to prevent an infection. Sometimes, antibiotic medicines are needed. If this is the case for you, your doctor will prescribe antibiotics. In rare cases, additional surgery may be necessary to treat an infection.
- 2. Hemorrhage and Blood Transfusions.** Cutting blood vessels causes bleeding, and this occurs with every surgical incision. Usually, bleeding can be controlled without difficulty. At times, though, blood transfusions are needed to replace excessive blood loss. If blood transfusions are given, there is a small additional risk of hepatitis (liver inflammation) or serious blood reactions may occur. There is a remote possibility that Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) may develop. There is no absolutely sure way to predict these unwanted reactions. Some of these reactions may be quite serious and even lead to death. If there is enough time before the surgery, you may choose to donate your own blood in case you need a blood transfusion. In minor operations there is usually less blood loss than in major ones, but not always. Sometimes excessive bleeding occurs after the original operation is completed. In that case, additional action must be taken to control the delayed bleeding.
- 3. Drug Reactions.** Unexpected allergies, reactions, or illness caused by the prescribed drugs can occur. It is important for you to tell your physician about any problems you have had with reaction to drugs and to let him or her know which medications (prescribed, over-the-counter, or herbal) you now take regularly.
- 4. Anesthetic Reactions.** Anesthetic drugs and techniques can affect all of the body's major organ systems and on rare occasions may be associated with injury to one or more organs. Complications to anesthesia can be minor and short lived, or in rare cases they can be severe and permanent, including death.
- 5. Blood Vessel Inflammation and Clotting.** Blood clots may block blood vessels. Sometimes these blood clots (thromboembolisms) may break free and move into other organs and injure those organs or cause other injury such as stroke or death.
- 6. Injury to Other Organs.** Because other organs are usually close to the area being operated on, it may not be possible to avoid affecting nearby organs, tissues, or nerves connected to those organs.

The stress of surgery may also harm other organ systems in the body. Your doctor may make changes to your treatment in response to these conditions, if it becomes necessary.

7. **Other Risks.** It is not possible to list all the possible risks and complications that may happen during any surgical operation or procedure. Each situation depends upon the patient's overall health as well as the purpose and nature of the operation. Your physician is willing to talk with you about your specific situation and any other risks that might occur.

Alternatives to Treatment

There are many ways to treat any illness, including doing nothing. You and your doctor need to discuss the best options for you. Even if you and your doctor have decided that surgery is the best choice, do not hesitate to discuss the reasons for the choice and the treatment alternatives for similar conditions. You should also talk about the potential effectiveness and risks that occur with these alternative methods of treatment. There are risks involved in any operation. It is not possible to guarantee a successful result, it is important that you clearly understand and agree to the planned surgery as the best decision for you.

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