Welcome to the Holding Room
At St. Luke’s Hospital-Allentown Campus
Fred Loquasto RN, Melonie Weider, LPN and Robbie Ziegler, LPN

The Holding Room is the second area you will enter during your journey to a successful surgical experience. You will start your surgery day experience in the Same Day Surgery Unit. Many of you will already have your intravenous catheter, or IV, inserted in Same Day Surgery. Some of you may have your IV started in the Holding Area by one of our qualified nurses.

While in the Holding Room, our experienced and courteous nurses will greet and identify you by your name and birth date. Many of the questions you were previously asked regarding you and your health history will be repeated at this time. Repetition allows the staff to provide safe patient care. The Holding Room staff will provide strict privacy during your visit.

A Holding Room nurse will give you a physician-ordered antibiotic through your IV. Antibiotics are given as a protection against infection when certain surgeries are being performed, including surgeries of the gastro-intestinal tract like yours. Your abdomen will be checked for hair removal. Hair removal is essential for the surgeons to adequately perform your surgery. It is important that you refrain from shaving your abdomen at home. Improper shaving may cause cuts and irritation to the skin which could increase your risk of infection. This will result in the cancellation of your surgery. At this time the surgeon may write his initials on your abdomen. This ensures that you and your surgeon agree upon the procedure that is to be performed.

A Bariatric team member will be present throughout your stay in the Holding Room. She will be there as a support person and to answer any questions regarding your pre-surgery or post-surgery care.

Prior to entering the Operating Room, other health care team members will visit you in the Holding Room including the anesthetist or anesthesiologist and the registered nurse responsible for your care during your surgical procedure. These team members will repeat the same questions regarding you and your health history in order to verify again that all information is correct.

Every member of the health care team is here to provide you with a safe and comfortable experience. Thank you for choosing St. Luke’s Hospital - Allentown Campus.

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