

# Information for you regarding your Anaesthetic

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## ***Dr Dermot Murphy MB BCh BAO FFARCSI MD Specialist Anaesthetist***

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Your surgeon has scheduled you for a procedure that will require my services as a Specialist Anaesthetist.

I will be responsible for ensuring your safety and comfort during the operation and in the immediate post-operative period.

You will be assessed, either by phone or in person prior to your procedure. Anaesthetic options and any specific risks will be discussed at this time. Usually I will first meet you in the hospital on the day of surgery, however if you have more complex problems you may need to be seen in Clinic, and possibly be referred to have specialist review or extra tests prior to the intended surgical date.

Specific details about your anaesthetic management, and the risks and benefits relevant to your operation and aftercare, will be discussed with you. A list of current medications and doses will greatly assist me in preparing your anaesthesia plan.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY TAKING BLOOD THINNING MEDICATION PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SURGEON WITH REGARD TO CHANGING YOUR NORMAL DOSING PROGRAM BEFORE YOUR SURGERY

For major operations, pain control will be established as part of the anaesthetic. This may include nerve blocks or epidurals. These specialised techniques are managed on the ward by me as Director of the Acute Pain Management Service at Hollywood Private Hospital in conjunction with my Acute Pain Nurse colleagues.

For an overview of helpful information concerning anaesthetic options and risks, I recommend viewing the Box Hill Hospital website: <http://bhdoa.org.au/aip/>  
The section on **Regional Anaesthesia** is particularly relevant when considering pain management options for many types of orthopaedic surgery.

### **Fees**

All Anaesthesia services attract a Medical Fee that is separate from that of the surgeon or other involved Specialists. Anaesthesia services are represented by Medicare item-numbers based on the difficulty and duration of the procedure, and any extra interventions (such as epidurals, special monitors, blood transfusions etc) that you may require.

The amount covered for anaesthesia by Private Health Funds can vary considerably. In general, I am willing to accept the amount rebated by your Private Health Fund and Medicare to ensure that you have no "gap" to pay. If you do not have Private Health insurance, I will generate an account based on the current HBF "no-gap" schedule of fees.

I am available by phone if you have any concerns about your surgery, anaesthesia, pain relief or the anaesthesia fees that you would like to discuss.

**Dr Dermot Murphy**

**Provider Number 0167282J**

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