



## ANAESTHESIA INFORMATION FORM

### Important information

Before your anaesthetic:

- Do not eat any solid food (or drink any liquid that you cannot see through) for 6 hours before your procedure in order to decrease the risk of you regurgitating under anaesthesia.
- You may drink clear liquids such as water, coffee or tea **with no milk or creamer**, or juice **without particles** up to 2 hours before your procedure.
- Children may drink clear fluids as above up to 1 hour before their procedure (to a maximum volume of 3 ml/kg).

After your anaesthetic:

- You may not drive a vehicle or operate heavy machinery, sign legal documents or make binding decisions for a period of 24 hours.

Below are the different types of anaesthesia. Although modern anaesthesia is generally very safe, all forms of anaesthesia involve some risk.

- **General Anaesthesia:**

- **Expected result:** Total unconscious state, possible placement of a tube into the windpipe.
- **Technique:** Drug injected into the bloodstream, anaesthetic gas breathed into the lungs.
- **Risks:** Mouth or throat pain, hoarseness, injury to mouth or teeth, injury to the vocal cords, awareness, injury to blood vessels, aspiration, pneumonia.

- **Spinal or Epidural Anaesthesia:**

- **Expected result:** Temporary loss of feeling and/or movement to the lower part of the body.
- **Technique:** Drug injected through a needle or catheter placed into, or immediately outside the spinal canal.
- **Risks:** Headache, backache, bleeding, buzzing in ears, convulsions, infection, residual pain, total spinal, persistent weakness, persistent numbness, paralysis.

- **Nerve Block:**

- **Expected result:** Temporary loss of feeling and movement of a specific limb or area.
- **Technique:** Drug injected around nerves, using anatomical, nerve stimulator or ultrasound to guide the injection.
- **Risks:** Infection, convulsions, persistent loss of function, injury to blood vessel, weakness, residual pain.

- **Monitored Anaesthesia Care:**

- **Expected result:** Reduced anxiety or pain, partial or total amnesia for the event. A light plane of sleep/relaxation where you may still hear and be aware of what is going on.
- **Technique:** Medication either injected intravenously, breathed into the lungs, or other route. Measurement of vital signs, availability of anaesthesia provider for further intervention if needed.
- **Risks:** Increased awareness, anxiety or discomfort, unconsciousness, depressed breathing, aspiration.



**Estimated Anaesthetic Cost for 2024 (including VAT)**

Anaesthetic time costs 0023 This is a calculated value and the table below is just a guide only	Estimated Time	Estimated Anaesthetic Fee (Discovery Classic rate of 217%)
Basic anaesthetic	30 min	R 1061.44
Basic anaesthetic	60 min	R 2122.88
Basic anaesthetic	90 min	R 3715.40
Basic anaesthetic	2 hours	R 5307.20

Procedure	Estimated Time	Estimated Anaesthetic Fee (Discovery Classic 217%)
Pre-operative visit 0151	15 minutes	R 961.70
Emergency consultation 0147	add	R 794.00
Emergency anaesthetic time 0011	add	R calculated value based on the time spent under anaesthesia
Pain control procedures 2801	add	R 1330.70
Arterial line/Central venous catheter 1215/1218	add	R 924.20
Head or neck procedure	add	R 524.88
positioning	add	R 939.73
Children < 1 yr or elderly > 70yr	add	R 787.32
ICU or High care	add	R2 164.40 (1209) / R1 118.80 (1204)
BMI > 35 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	add	50% of the calculated anaesthetic time on code 0023

**NB: The above costs are estimates only. The final cost will depend on all the appropriate risk modifiers such as: fractures, bone and joint surgery, obesity, paediatrics, elderly, ICU admission, pain relief techniques, blood pressure control, revision surgery and emergencies or cases not booked on routine lists may not be included in the cost estimate and need to be added to the time cost estimate**