

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR SURGERY AS A PATIENT

The decision to undergo surgery should be a joint decision between you and your doctor (surgeon). Before proceeding with surgery, here are some questions you may wish to discuss with your doctor to better understand your medical condition, treatment options and avenues for financing.



### “Is the surgery necessary for my condition?”

Patients should understand the diagnosis and the reasons surgery is recommended.



### “What other treatment options are available?”

Patients should discuss all available non-surgical treatment options with their doctors and weigh the risks and benefits of each together.



### “Should I seek a second opinion?”

If you are uncertain, you may wish to seek a second opinion from another clinician to discuss your condition and treatment options.



### “How will the surgery be performed and what are the risks involved?”

Knowing details about the surgery e.g., length of surgery, recovery process, will help you make an informed decision.



### “Is hospitalisation necessary?”

Many procedures can be done in a day surgery setting, while others require inpatient stay. You are encouraged to discuss with your surgeon which suits them best.



### “Is my hospital bill covered by insurance?”

Some procedures are not covered by MSHL, e.g. cosmetic surgery/health screening. Bills may include components that are paid out-of-pocket.

For more information, visit:  
[HTTPS://GO.GOV.SG/COSTFINANCE](https://go.gov.sg/costfinance)

