

## **Patient Safety Information**

### **Patient Safety is Our Top Priority**

At Grand Valley Surgical Center, your health and safety is our top priority. As part of our goal to achieve the highest standards of performance and quality in the delivery of outpatient surgical services, the Grand Valley Surgical Center has developed a comprehensive safety and infection prevention program. The following programs are in place to ensure safe, high-quality care for all patients:

- Ambulatory Surgery National Patient Safety Goal Program
- Infection Prevention Program to prevent surgical site infections
- Nursing staff certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)

### **Preventing Surgical Wound Infections**

A surgical site infection (SSI) is an infection that occurs after surgery in the area where the surgery took place. Most patients who have surgery do not develop an infection.

The staff and physicians at Grand Valley Surgical Center adhere to strict infection prevention and control practices to prevent surgical site infections.

### **What you can do to prevent infection**

- If you are prescribed antibiotics after surgery, be sure to take the entire prescription as instructed
- Follow your discharge instructions for wound care as recommended
- Do not touch your wound or dressing unless you have washed your hands first
- Refrain from smoking prior to surgery and postoperatively; smoking steals oxygen from cells that are in the process of healing and increases the risk of infection.

### **Common Symptoms of a Surgical Site Infection**

Some of the common symptoms of infection to watch for and to report to your physician if they occur are:

- Redness and pain around the area where you had surgery
- Drainage of cloudy fluid from your surgical wound
- Fever

### **Patient Satisfaction**

Our goal is to provide you with the highest quality surgical care available. The Grand Valley Surgical Center takes pride in our excellent patient satisfaction scores and we strive to further improve patient care whenever possible.

As part of our ongoing Quality Improvement Program, all patients receive a Patient Satisfaction Survey upon discharge. We encourage you to complete and return the survey to assist us in providing you with the best surgical care possible.