



AKADEMISKA
SJUKHUSET

Before your lung surgery

Patient information



This information has been designed for patients who will be undergoing lung surgery at Akademiska sjukhuset.



If you have questions, please contact:

Log in to www.1177.se

Preoperative Clinic

018 611 40 02

Cardiothoracic Surgery Ward 50D

018 611 40 01

Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit 50B

018 611 40 11

Surgical Planning

018 611 40 20



Turn the page for
more information!

Welcome to Thoraxkliniken

Thoraxkliniken consists of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Unit, the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (TIVA), and Cardiothoracic Surgery Ward 50D. We have many years of experience in heart and lung surgery. We want your days at the hospital to be as good as possible.

Admission appointment

You will be called in to the Preoperative Clinic at Cardiothoracic Surgery Ward 50D, which is located adjacent to Entrance 50 on Floor 4. There you will meet various staff members, including ward physicians and anesthesiologists. This is usually an outpatient appointment, which means that you will go home the same day and come back the day before your scheduled surgery. In some cases, you may be admitted the day before the scheduled surgery. If this is the case, you will already have received this information from us.

Important! – If you are taking any blood-thinning medications, get in touch with the nurses in Surgical Planning. Phone numbers can be found on the first page of this document.

Things to keep in mind prior to your admission

Prior to admission, you must have taken a preoperative double shower the day before surgery; see the showering instructions on a separate page.

You are responsible for bringing your own medications, and it is up to you to remember to take them, up to and including the evening before your operation date. Bring the original packaging of your medications with you, not just a dosette box. If you use an inhaler, eye drops or insulin, bring them with you to the ward.

Feel free to bring your own toiletries, shaving implements, and slippers, but try to take as few valuables with you as possible. Please note that the hospital is not responsible for your valuables. You must leave your walker/wheelchair at home. You can borrow one from us during your stay. Pack comfortable clothes for the trip home.

The night before your operation

Regardless of where they are coming from, we do our best to plan things so that all our patients can stay in the ward the night before surgery.

If you live in Uppsala and the surrounding area, you may be able to sleep at home the night before surgery and then return to the Inpatient Ward the morning of the day of your operation.

If you do not live in Uppsala, you may need to sleep at our patient hotel the night before surgery. In that case, you may be allowed to bring a relative with you to the patient hotel. Their stay will entail an additional fee. We will take care of transport between the hospital and the hotel.

The operation

We use several types of pain relief at the clinic. Most lung surgeries use epidural anesthesia (spinal anesthesia). If abnormal tissue is to be surgically removed, it is sent directly from surgery for analysis. Below the surgical incisions, one or two surgical drains are inserted to collect blood and exudate, which helps the lung to stay distended in order to heal. A standard procedure takes between 2 and 3 hours. Upon completion of the surgery, you will be moved to the Recovery Room.

After the operation

Recovery Room for the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (TUVA)

You will be cared for here until you have properly woken up and everything is stable in terms of your heart rate, blood pressure, pain, and blood oxygen levels. This takes different amounts of time, depending on the type of surgery, but usually one to four hours. There are always staff on hand in the Recovery Room to make sure you're doing alright. In the Recovery Room, you will be offered something to drink before you are transferred back to the Inpatient Ward.

We will be happy to help you call any loved ones from our phone, as you are not allowed to use your mobile phone in the Recovery Room. Relatives are not normally permitted to visit until you are back in the Inpatient Ward.

Cardiothoracic Surgery Ward 50D

After your stay at TUVA, you can move back to the Inpatient Ward. Every morning, the doctors and nurses meet and make rounds. During the day, there are doctors on the ward. On weekends, there is a doctor on call. The rounds are shorter, and the doctor does not always go around to all the patients.

The drain will remain in place until the lung has healed and can stay expanded by itself again. This can take anywhere from a day to over a week, but usually a few days. Your wounds will be inspected every day, and we will keep a close eye out for signs of infection, such as redness, local heat increase, pain, or fluid seepage from the wound.

Heading home

The length of your hospital stay will depend on how invasive the procedure is and how long the lung drain must remain in place. If you are not from Uppsala and the surrounding area, you will stay with us for about 3 days before you can move back to your local hospital. We will take care of the transport and all communication with your local hospital. If you are from Uppsala, you will stay 3 to 5 days before you are discharged directly to your home. You will receive more information about what to keep in mind during a discharge conversation with a doctor and nurse.

Sick leave

The length of your postoperative sick leave will vary depending on your profession and how you feel, but usually lasts around 1 month. Once you are back at home, it is important to listen to your body and only do what you can handle. It may be a good idea to avoid heavy manual labor for the first month and to ease back into your various household chores.

Follow-up appointment

It will take between two and three weeks to get the results of the analysis of the abnormal tissue that was removed during surgery. If you are from Uppsala and the surrounding area, you will always be called in to see a pulmonologist two weeks after the operation has been performed. If you are not from Uppsala, your local hospital will decide when follow-up with your pulmonologist takes place.



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You will find information and services for your health on the website 1177.se. For health care advice call 1177, open 24 hours a day.



Contact Akademiska

Akademiska sjukhuset can be contacted via:
patientkontakt@akademiska.se
Patient Contact : 018-611 30 33
Switchboard: 018-611 00 00
www.akademiska.se