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NAME: _____

SURGERY DATE: _____

Countdown to surgery: Please carefully review the following tasks which need to be completed prior to surgery (or as we say it “pre-op”)

30 days before surgery: Pre-op history and physical. Hospitals now require that we complete a pre-op history and physical in our office within 30 days of surgery. If your surgery is scheduled for over 30 days from your last appointment, you may need to be seen in our office again to complete this task.

21 days before surgery: Preoperative testing (blood tests, sometimes EKG) should be done 14-21 days prior to your surgery date. We need this done in advance in case any of the labs are abnormal. (Exception – children having tubes need no testing) We will provide you with a form to take to a lab - usually at the Hospital where you are having your surgery. If you are having your testing elsewhere i.e. Harvard Vanguard, or another hospital, or a Quest lab, make sure to inform the Surgical Coordinator so she can retrieve the labs prior to surgery. Please do not wait until the last minute to have your labs done – the Lowell General lab in our building is open from 7:00 am-3:30 pm.

14 days before surgery Pre-op “packet” The Surgical coordinator will provide you with a packet of information prior to surgery. This will either be given to you at your pre-op office appointment, or mailed to you. The packet tells you the location of your surgery, when to show up, dates and times for office appointments AFTER surgery, and “do’s and don’ts” prior to surgery. Please read the packet carefully. A reminder: Do NOT take Aspirin, Motrin, Advil, Ibuprofen or any other blood thinner for 14 days before surgery unless you have spoken with your surgeon and he Okays it.

Prior to surgery: Insurance approval – Many insurance plans require us to provide them with very detailed health information to approve your surgery. We make every effort to assure that your surgery is authorized and are very experienced in this task. Ironically, even with “pre-approval” no insurance company promises that they will guarantee coverage and some have been known to make last minute changes. Recently some insurance companies have denied coverage only a few days before surgery, or required our doctors to read their notes to their doctors over the phone (usually in the middle of seeing patients). We will always do the best we can in this regard but we cannot control the insurance companies.

****If your insurance coverage changes from the time you receive this form, you must contact the Surgical Coordinator with the new information!** We can only obtain proper preapproval if we know the correct health plan to call!

If you are unclear on any details prior to surgery, please contact the Surgical coordinators, Lyn and Chrissy at 978-256-5557 ext.124 (okay to leave a message) or email at lyn.halko@massent.com