

# Joint Replacement Anesthesia

LRH Anesthesia Department



# Anesthesia Role in Your Surgery

- Our most important goal is to provide you with the safest anesthetic that will keep you comfortable
- Pre-operative evaluation
- Intra-operative management
- Post-operative care



# What Are My Options?

- General Anesthesia
- Regional Anesthesia



# Regional Anesthesia

- Most common type of anesthesia used for joint replacements at LRH
- How it is performed
- Benefits
  - Lesser incidence of post-operative nausea and vomiting
  - Less groggy after surgery
  - Better pain control
  - Less blood loss
- Risks
  - Less than one percent



# Common Questions Regarding Regional Anesthesia

- Will I be awake during my surgery?
  - No, you will still be sedated throughout your procedure
- Do I need to worry about being paralyzed from this technique?
  - Spinal anesthesia is incredibly safe and the chance of a major side effect is very rare. We perform a thorough evaluation to ensure you are a good candidate for this technique.
- Will I get a headache afterward?
  - It is very unlikely (less than one percent chance) due to the small size of the needle.



# General Anesthesia

- Typically used for those patients who are not good candidates for a regional anesthetic or for those who choose not to have a spinal.
- How it is performed
- Benefits
  - Good for patients on anti-coagulants (Plavix, Coumadin) who cannot stop them
  - Good for patients with potentially difficult anatomy of the spine
- Risks
  - Airway management, breathing issues and increased risk of nausea and vomiting



# What To Expect on Surgery Day

- Meet your CRNA for your case
  - 8 member anesthesia team
- Review your health history
  - Medical chart review
  - Vital signs
  - Brief physical assessment
- Establish your anesthetic plan



# Thanks For Your Time!

We look forward to providing you with a safe anesthetic on the day of your surgery.

