**EK Plastic Surgery Referral to Tri-State Surgery Center:**

**Important Information Regarding Referral to Ambulatory Surgical Center**

Dr. Kennedy has determined you are a candidate for outpatient surgery at Tri-State Surgery Center (TSSC). The following is important information to help you make an informed decision about receiving surgical services at an Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC).

 ***About TSSC:*** TSSC is an accredited ASC. The accreditation is awarded by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). TSSC is a 50-50 joint venture between MercyOne Dubuque Medical Center and Medical Associates Clinic, P.C. Dr. Kennedy is not a shareholder/owner of either entity.

 ***About Cost:*** The total cost for a surgical procedure at an ASC (like TSSC) is usually less than if the same of similar procedure were performed in a Hospital Outpatient Department. This is generally true whether you are a self-pay patient, or our insurance company is billed.

 ***About Insurance Coverage:*** TSSC accepts most insurance plans. Your out-of-pocket cost share (deductible, copay, coinsurance) will depend on your plan. TSSC and EK Plastic Surgery work directly with your insurance company to ensure prior authorization/pre-certification requirements (if any) are met, so that your procedure receives insurance approval. The goal is to provide a smooth and efficient process for patients and providers alike.

 ***About the TSSC Healthcare Team:***  The surgical team at TSSC is comprised of licensed and trained professionals, comparable to the team that typically performs these procedures in a Hospital Outpatient Department. Medical Personnel that will participate in your care include but are not limited to Certified Medical Assistants, X-Ray Technicians, Surgical Scrub Technicians, Registered Nurses, Physician Assistants and Physicians.

 ***About Anesthesia at TSSC:*** Anesthesia Care at TSSC is provided by Dubuque Anesthesia Services (DAS). DAS is an independent professional practice of Anesthesiologists and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists who provide surgical anesthesia support to TSSC and area hospitals, including MercyOne Dubuque. The anesthesia professional and your physician/surgeon will discuss the appropriate use of anesthesia protocols and what is in your best interest as a patient in performing the surgical procedure. Types of anesthesia generally used at TSSC include General Anesthesia, Monitored Anesthesia Care, Regional Anesthesia and Local Infiltration Anesthesia. An Anesthesiologist is present onsite at TSSC until the last patient is medically discharged.

 ***If There is an Emergency:*** To ensure patient care and safety in the unlikely event of an emergency, TSSC has trained staff and documented emergency action plans and protocols that include transfer, if needed, to MercyOne Dubuque or UnityPoint Finley Hospital. DAS anesthesia providers and employed Registered Nurses are specialty trained to respond in the event of a medical complication. These professional staff follow Basic Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, and Pediatric Advanced Life Support measures if needed. As an AAAHC Accredited facility, TSSC is required to hold emergency drills throughout the year to prepare for any emergencies. If emergency care is needed, TSSC will arrange patient transportation to the acute care facility. TSSC is 3.2 miles from MercyOne Dubuque and 2.5 miles from UnityPoint Finley Hospital.

For any questions or concerns regarding this information or your course of care, you are encouraged to speak directly with your surgeon’s office, your surgeon or TSSC (563-584-4500). 9/2022