Patient Information Regarding Non-Obstetrical Surgery or Procedures
Under Anesthesia During Pregnancy

We strongly suggest that surgeries or procedures not related to pregnancy be postponed until after your baby is born if it is safe to wait.

What are some of the risks if I have surgery and am pregnant?

1. Increased risk of miscarriage.
2. Increased risk of stillbirth.
3. Increased risk of pre-term delivery.
4. Increased risk of low birth weight baby.
5. Increased risk for C-section (caesarean section).
7. We do not know how all surgeries and procedures will affect your pregnancy.
8. Pain medicine and sedation will be used during your procedure. There is no medical evidence that these medicines cause any harm to your pregnancy.
9. You may have a complication during your surgery. You may need different medicine, procedures or tests that could harm your pregnancy or cause birth defects that are not listed here.

Are there surgeries that cannot wait until after my baby is born? Yes. Some surgeries cannot wait. It can be harmful to you or your baby to delay the surgery. You will want to talk to your doctor.

What is recommended for me if I am pregnant and need surgery? We may recommend some or all of the following things:

1. A consult with your OB doctor before surgery.
2. A screening by your doctor and surgeon for the risks of blood clots.
3. Monitoring of your baby’s heart rate at certain times before, during or after your procedure.

If you have any questions or concerns please ask your surgeon or anesthesiologist.