

A Speech-Language Pathologist ~ After Laryngectomy Surgery ~

What can a Speech-Language Pathologist do for you?

Before your surgery

You will meet the Speech-Language Pathologist to talk about your plan of care. Your doctor will let the Speech-Language Pathologist know about your upcoming surgery. The Speech-Language Pathologist will call to make an appointment for you. You will come to the Department of Speech-Language Pathology or you will be seen in the Pre-Admission Assessment Clinic before surgery.

During this session you will:

- learn about your surgery
- learn how the surgery will affect your voice
- see some of the methods you can use to speak
- receive some written information to take home

If you are interested, you can meet with a person who has had a laryngectomy. This can be arranged before and/or after your surgery. You will be able to see and hear how he or she speaks and have some time to talk and ask questions.

After your surgery

A Speech-Language Pathologist will see you after your surgery. You will begin speech therapy as soon as you can.

If you did not see a Speech-Language Pathologist before surgery, the information described above will be shared with you on the unit.

When it is time to go home

The Speech-Language Pathologist will arrange for you to go to speech therapy sessions as an outpatient.

When it is time to go home (continued)

The number of therapy sessions you will need depends on the type of surgery you had, the type of communication you are using and your own needs. Some people need therapy for 1 week while others may need to continue for a longer time. You will be involved in developing a plan of care that is right for you and your family.

Members of your family and friends are welcome to come to any of your speech therapy sessions if you want.

Department of Speech-Language Pathology