THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Center for the Surgical Treatment of Obesity

What should you do in case of an emergency?

Numbers you should know:

John C. Alverdy, M.D./Vivek N. Prachand, M.D. (773) 702-1000. Ask the paging operator to page Dr. Alverdy or Dr. Prachand. You can leave a number for them to return your call.

General Surgery Resident: (773) 702-1000. In case of emergency, ask the paging operator to page the general surgery resident on call or go to the nearest emergency room.

Judy Starkey, B.S.N., R.N. (773) 834-8900, option 4. You can leave a number for her to return your call. Call Judy, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. if you are unable to reach your surgeon or the resident.

If you do not have time to call, please go immediately to the nearest emergency room. Inform the emergency room that you had a surgery for weight loss and the date on which the surgery was performed. Provide them with the phone numbers above if necessary.

If you need to return to The University of Chicago Hospitals emergently, the UCAN (helicopter) can come and get you from the other hospital or you can travel by ambulance to The University of Chicago.

Reasons to go to the emergency room:

Temperature greater than 101.5°F
Severe pain to the abdomen
Sudden onset of shortness of breath and/or chest pains
If someone from the team instructs you

We do not anticipate that you will need to go to the emergency room, but in the case that it will be necessary, we would like you to be prepared. If an ambulance is needed, please remember to tell the operator that you are a larger person and they may need to have a double crew dispatched.

Please discuss this information with your family members and support person to ensure understanding.

If you have any questions of the above, please do not hesitate to call Judy Starkey, B.S.N., R.N. at (773) 834-8900, option 4.

“More than twelve years experience as a multidisciplinary center for the surgical treatment of obesity”