



Minimally Invasive **Cardiothoracic Surgery**
PROFESSOR TRISTAN D. YAN
BSc MBBS MS MD PhD FRACS

Your Pre-admission Information & Preoperative Investigations

This is a brief letter to accept you under my care for your upcoming surgery. It will be my pleasure to look after you as your surgeon. I trust that you will be satisfied with the perioperative services and the care provided by our dedicated team. Your anaesthetist is a senior cardiothoracic anaesthetist and will work very closely with me to look after you. He will give you a thorough anaesthetic evaluation upon admission. We will be your primary consultants during your hospital stay.

Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery

Cardiothoracic Surgery has undergone rapid evolutionary changes in recent years. Instead of a traditional 25-30 cm incision, we offer *minimally invasive surgery and robotic surgery* via a 4-6 cm incision, which is much favoured by our patients. Although not everyone is suitable for a minimally invasive approach, you can rest assured that it is our primary objective to offer the best-quality care to minimize surgical trauma and achieve a more rapid recovery for you. We also conduct a strict *blood conservation protocol* to avoid blood loss and transfusion. Should the latter be required, it is our first preference to offer autologous transfusion (using your own saved blood, rather than a donor's blood) to reduce the infection risk. Our *fundamental surgical principles* are based on meticulous conduct of surgery and focused attention to detail.

Preoperative Investigations

Prior to your surgery, we need to get some tests finalized. These are broadly divided into three categories, as further detailed on the next page: blood tests, imaging tests and functional tests.

- The **blood tests** are to assess your cell counts, electrolytes and infection status. They will be done during your pre-admission clinic.
- The **imaging tests** are to visualize your vascular structures accurately, which may include CT scans and carotid (neck vessel) ultrasound. It is *your responsibility* to get all the scans done prior to your hospital admission and make sure that I receive the results of your scans in time; otherwise your operation may be postponed.
- The **functional tests** are to evaluate your organ function, eg. lung function test, which will be done at pre-admission clinic. In addition, you may have been asked to have a dental check. An infection in your tooth, if untreated prior to heart valve surgery may cause infection of the new prosthesis. So please follow the '*Plan Your Surgery*' sheet attached.

Your clinical nurse is Ms. Clare Brown who has extensive clinical experience in caring for patients undergoing heart and lung surgery. Should you have any questions regarding your surgical care, please do not hesitate to contact us on (02) 8077 1188. It will be my team's great pleasure to assist you.

Yours sincerely,

Tristan D. Yan, MB.BS. MS. MD. Ph.D.

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Professor of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, Macquarie University
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Plan Your Surgery

We would like to help you plan your surgery. Some of these tests are done on the day of admission and the others must be completed prior to your admission. You must complete the tests, marked with a '✓'.

Blood Tests	Out-patient	In-patient	Completed
<i>FBC, EUC, LFT, COAGs, G&H</i>			
<i>Serology Hep B, Hep C & HIV</i>			
<i>Others:</i>			

Imagine Tests	Out-patient	In-patient	Completed
<i>Chest X-Ray</i>			
<i>Trans-thoracic Echocardiography (TEE)</i>			
<i>Trans-oesophageal Echocardiography (TOE)</i>			
<i>Coronary Artery Angiogram</i>			
<i>CT Coronary Artery Angiogram</i>			
<i>CT Thoracic Aortogram with 3D Reconstruction</i>			
<i>CT Carotid and Intracranial Angiogram (Circle of Willis)</i>			
<i>Carotid Duplex Ultrasound with Subclavian Views</i>			
<i>Others</i>			

Functional Tests	Out-patient	In-patient	Completed
<i>Electrocardiography (ECG)</i>			
<i>Spirometry</i>			
<i>Pulmonary (lung) Function Test</i>			
<i>Stress ECG, Echo or Myocardial Perfusion Scan</i>			
<i>Dental Check</i>			
<i>Others</i>			

Clinical Information	Out-patient	In-patient	Completed
<i>Admission Booklet*</i>			
<i>Informed Consent</i>			
<i>Patient Information Factsheet</i>			
<i>Anaesthetic Review</i>			
<i>Filming/Photography Request</i>			
<i>Special Requests</i>			

*Prior to your admission, you will need to have completed the admission booklet manually or online. Please read this booklet carefully and follow the instructions on the booklet.

Your Medications

If you take any medications, you should discuss them with Professor Yan, especially if you are taking the following: **aspirin**, **clopidogrel** (Plavix or Iscover), **warfarin**, **metformin** or **herbal** medications.

Your Arrival Time

Please arrive at the time the hospital told you to the **day before your procedure**. You will then be taken to your pre-operative ward. Your anesthetist will assess you, once you have been admitted to the hospital.