You are scheduled for surgery on: ________________________________

PLEASE check into the hospital in Admitting Office, 1st Floor, East Pavilion at ________________________________.

Your surgery will be at _________________. Your needle localization is scheduled at ________________ on the first floor of Smilow Cancer Hospital.

Your post op appointment is scheduled for ________________ at _______

All patients must have someone to drive them home after their procedure.

VALET PARKING is available for the driver of patients having surgery. Valet is available at the Main entrance of Yale New Haven Hospital, 20 York Street and at the Smilow Cancer Hospital entrance, 35 Park Street. Valet parking is free for those having outpatient surgery. For those staying overnight, valet is an option at designated cost. Parking is also available on the 4th Floor of the Air Rights Garage. Directions are available upon request.

PRE-OPERATIVE PLANNING

Each woman having surgery will be given a scheduled date, either on the day of your visit with the surgeon, or by phone from your surgeon’s clinical secretary. You will also receive an automated phone call between 3-5 PM the day before surgery, telling you what time to arrive for surgery. Please call 203-688-4107 if you do not receive a call or you have further questions.

Based on your age, current medical problems, and planned surgery, your surgical team will decide what preoperative tests need to be ordered. This may include blood work, EKG and chest x-ray, which can be done here at Smilow or at your physician’s office. If medical clearance is needed, the paperwork should be faxed, along with any lab work, to 203-200-2075. If you are having surgery requiring an overnight stay or you have a complex medical history, you will have an appointment in PAT, or Preadmission Testing, where you will
meet with the anesthesia team and have all necessary testing done and reviewed. **This appointment can take up to 2 hours.**

Finally, each woman should also have a teaching session with one of the nurses in The Breast Center to review preoperative and postoperative instructions included in this guide. Please call if you have not had this teaching session, **203-200-2328.**

**DO NOT** use any aspirin or aspirin containing products (check all cold remedies) for 10 days before your surgery. This includes ibuprofen, naprosyn, Aleve, Motrin and Advil. If you are on Plavix, Pradaxa or Coumadin (warfarin), or any blood thinning medication, please check with your cardiologist or primary care doctor. These will usually be discontinued 5 days preoperatively. **ALSO,** please check with your surgical team about stopping your herbal supplements or vitamins.

Do NOT smoke for **at least** 24 hours prior to your surgery. Bring a comfortable bra or designated garment (camisole, surgical bra) with you to the hospital. Wear pants or a skirt if you are having a needle localization.

**PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

- **Do not eat or drink anything** after midnight on the night before your surgery, including gum, mints and hard candies.

- **Do not eat or drink anything,** including water, on the day of your surgery. Take only the medications your doctor or nurse has instructed you to with a sip of water.

- Call your surgeon before your surgery if you do not feel well or develop any signs of illness, a cold, fever, sore throat, chest pain or difficulty breathing.

You will have your surgery in the Smilow (North Pavilion) operating room, which is on the 3rd floor. Please check in on the morning of surgery at the **Admitting Office,** via the **20 York St entrance** to Yale New Haven Hospital. You will then be guided to the 3rd floor where you will meet your surgeon, nurses and anesthesia team. You will change into a hospital gown and an IV will be started. A family member or friend can keep you company during this preoperative time.
If you are having a needle localization, you will be transported from the pre-op holding area to the mammography department on the first floor approximately 90 minutes prior to your surgical time. You will return to the holding area by wheelchair once the procedure is completed, just prior to your scheduled OR time.

During your surgery, your family can wait in the waiting room on the 3rd floor beside the operating rooms. Your surgeon will speak to them immediately after your surgery.

You will stay in the PACU (recovery room) for one to two hours after your surgery. Your family will be able to join you when you are awake. Once you are stable and your pain is controlled, you will either be discharged home or admitted to the inpatient floor as planned. If you are going home and live alone, it is best if you have someone stay with you at least for the first night after surgery. **If you live alone or are unsure of availability of family and friends that can drive you home after surgery, please contact the social worker or nurse on your surgery team.**

PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 203-200-2328 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.