1. Are the risks from all types of surgeries the same?
   No. Your surgeon will speak to you about risks of your surgery.

2. Will I have a lot of pain?
   Every attempt is made to control pain after surgery to make it possible for you to move about quickly and become more active. This helps avoid problems and speeds recovery. Ask your surgeon about other pain management options.

3. How long do I have to stay in the hospital?
   Although it can vary, the hospital stay (including the day of surgery) can be 2 days for a laparoscopic band procedure, 2-5 days for a laparoscopic gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy.

4. Will the doctor leave a drain in after surgery?
   Some patients will have a small tube to allow drainage of any accumulated fluids from the abdomen. This is a safety measure, and it is usually removed a few days after the surgery. Generally, it produces no more than minor discomfort.

5. How soon will I be able to walk?
   Almost immediately after surgery doctors will require you to get up and move about. Patients are asked to walk or stand at the bedside on the night of surgery, take several walks the next day and thereafter. After leaving the hospital, you may be able to care for all you personal needs, but will need help with shopping, lifting and with transportation.

6. How soon can I drive?
   For your own safety, you should not drive until you have stopped taking narcotic medications and can move quickly and alertly to stop your car, especially in an emergency. Usually this takes 7-14 days after surgery.
1. What is done to minimize the risk of deep vein thrombosis (DVT)/pulmonary embolism (PE)?

   Because a DVT originates on the operating table, therapy begins before a patient goes to the operating room. Generally, patients are treated with sequential leg compression stockings and given a blood thinner prior to surgery. Both of these therapies continue throughout your hospitalization. The third major preventative measure involves getting the patient moving and out of bed as soon as possible after the operation to restore normal blood flow in the legs.

2. What should I bring to the hospital?

   Basic toiletries (comb, toothbrush, etc.) and clothing; choose clothing for your stay that are easy to put on and take off. Because of your incision, your clothes may become stained by blood or other body fluids. Other ideas:

   - Reading and writing materials
   - Crossword and other puzzles
   - Personal toiletries
   - Bathrobe
   - Small fan (needs to be approved by AMC staff)
   - Your own pillow in a distinctive colored pillowcase
   - Lip balm