

I just wanted to update you all on my experience with using Surgery Center of Oklahoma.

This surgery center is available to us to use and our insurance states it will pay 100%. If you are like me you are wondering what are the hidden costs? Well, from my own experience, I can tell you that there are no hidden fees.

One morning when I woke up there was a knot sticking up about an inch from my abdomen that was very painful. The following day the surrounding area began to turn purple. After having worked in surgery and in doctors' offices, I recognized I needed to see my doctor. I called my primary care doctor and was unable to get in to see him until the following week. Then I decided I would call Surgery Center of Oklahoma and see what their procedure was as far as how our insurance would cover it.

I spoke with a case manager that deals with Kempton and explained what I had going on. She then said she was referring me over to a general surgeon and his office would call me within 24 hours. They ended up calling within the hour and scheduled an appointment for that Thursday.

I went to him and he said he believed this was a hernia and it needed to be repaired right away. He scheduled the surgery for the following Monday. When I went to check out they said there was no co-pay because it was with Kempton. When Monday came I arrived at the surgery center in Edmond at 1:00pm and about 30 min later I was taken back to be prepped for surgery. The waiting room was very large and had several sitting areas with TV's and couches so those waiting on you could be comfortable.

My surgery started right on-time and my time in the recovery was very short. I woke up sitting in a chair and my family was already back there. After about an hour of eating crackers and drinking juice I was dismissed. That is rare for me because I am usually a puker after anesthesia, but the anesthesiologist and I had discussed this before surgery and he assured me it wouldn't happen this time and it didn't. He also let me know that even though this was an outpatient surgery that if I did have problems from the anesthesia that they could keep me over night to take care of me. They made me feel better. Overall my surgery went great and I was able to leave that evening and I was not in any pain. I was instructed to follow up with the doctor in ten days. However I developed some complications about 5 days after. This was nothing my doctor did wrong. I developed a pocket of infection within the abdomen that caused the incision to split open. That is just something that my body seems to do after surgery as this was not the first time that had happened.

Nonetheless, we called the surgery center (on a Saturday night) and they paged the doctor who called us right back and called in some medication for me and told us how to clean it and bandage it. I then went to see him on Tuesday. He discussed with us why and how it happened and how to treat it. Again there was no co-pay for that visit either.

About a month later I received my statement from Kempton that showed the surgery was covered 100%. This included all labs, surgeon fees, OR fees, anesthesia fees, pathology fees, and follow-up appointments. The only thing I paid for was my prescriptions. So I told you all of this to let you know how my experience was at Surgery Center of Oklahoma.

This surgery center covers some general surgery, ear nose and throat, some urology, some orthopedic, and some ophthalmology surgeries. You can look on their website at [www.surgerycenterok.com](http://www.surgerycenterok.com) to see the various types of surgeries. Again this is already in effect so if you or someone in your family is going to have surgery this is something you may want to look into.

--Participant, Kempton Group Administrators, Inc.

