

High Quality Anesthesia Services



Specialists in Caring

Pinnacle providers are committed to the pursuit of excellence as evidenced by our demanding credentialing and screening process. We are well known for our rigorous quality assurance programs which include: built-in quality control, peer review, compliance and peer education.

Pinnacle performs over 30,000 labor and delivery cases each year. All of our doctors were physicians first, then went on to complete specialty training in anesthesiology. Pinnacle physicians receive additional training and education on an annual basis, including at least 24 hours of continuing medical education plus many hours of training provided by Pinnacle's corporate office.

In addition to quality healthcare, a key value to Pinnacle is to strengthen the communities in which our employees and patients live and work. We are privileged to participate in several local and national philanthropic activities.

Visit our website for more company information and more detailed patient education:

www.PinnaclePartnersMed.com

Charges for your anesthesia services will come separately from your hospital bill.

Pinnacle accepts most insurance plans and can work with you on all others.

Pinnacle Partners In Medicine is one of the largest physician-owned and governed anesthesia and practice management companies in the country, providing a wide spectrum of services at major hospitals and other clinical sites. Strong partnerships, attention to customer service and dedication to the provision of quality patient care have established Pinnacle as the premier anesthesia group in the industry.

For over 15 years, we have provided top-notch care to patients in the communities we serve, building strong relationships both internally and externally.

Anesthesia for Labor & Delivery

To reduce discomfort during labor and delivery, analgesics or anesthesia may be administered. The most common forms provided are: epidural block, spinal block and general anesthesia as described below. However, several other types of anesthesia are possible.

An **epidural block** will cause some loss of feeling in the lower areas of your body. This type of analgesic may be given soon after your contractions begin, or at a later time during your labor. Your doctors will work with you to determine the proper time to administer the epidural block. You will be asked to sit or lie on your side with your back curved outward. The block is then placed in the lower back into a small area below the spinal cord referred to as epidural space. You will begin feeling relief within 10-20 minutes after the medication is injected, yet you will remain awake and alert the entire time.

A **spinal block** is also an injection into the lower back very similar to the epidural block. A spinal block can be given with a much thinner needle and uses a smaller dose of the drug, but only lasts for an hour or two. Pain relief occurs right away. This type of procedure is given only once during labor and is best suited for pain relief during delivery.

General anesthetics are medications that put you to sleep. You will lose consciousness with this type of medication and feel no pain. This treatment is often used when a regional block anesthetic is not possible or is not the best choice for medical reasons. It can be started quickly and causes rapid loss of consciousness. Therefore, this type of medication is common when an urgent cesarean delivery is needed.

A Pinnacle physician will work with your health care team to provide analgesics or anesthesia during your labor, after surgery or delivery, or during a surgical procedure such as cesarean delivery. In many cases, Pinnacle uses a Care Team Model which includes health care provided by an anesthesiologist and/or Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).



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Patient Services: 972-934-5220 (or 866-988-6088 outside the Dallas area)