



**McLAREN**  
**Blood Conservation**  
**PROGRAM**

**Questions to Ask Your Health-care Provider**

We are including a list of questions that would be important to ask your health-care provider if you are thinking about having surgery.

- Will I need a blood transfusion? If so, why?
- Can you do this surgery without the use of blood?
- Have you done this type of surgery before without giving blood transfusions?
- Will your medical team, including the anesthesia division, cooperate with this method of treatment?
- What type of support can you give medically to ensure I do not need blood? Do you use erythropoietin, volume expanders, cell saver, platelet sealant, and other measures to ensure minimal blood loss?
- What are the risks if I choose to minimize or avoid blood transfusions?
- What else do I need to do to prepare myself for surgery?
- Will I need to increase my blood count for this surgery?
- What are the risks involved with blood transfusions?
- If I do need a blood transfusion, how will it affect my recovery time?
- If my blood count level is low after surgery, how will it affect my ability to resume normal activity?

