Anesthesia is a painless sleep state brought about by various drugs. Our anesthesiologists are physicians who are specially trained in anesthesiology, with additional training in “Anesthesia for the Heart.” The anesthesiologists on our team are:

Bharathi Scott, MD, Chief of Cardiac Anesthesia
Christopher Gallagher, MD
Igor Izrailetyan, MD
Peter Oleszak, MD
Syed Shah, MD

Before you receive anesthesia, you will meet your anesthesiologist and together you can plan the care that is best for you. Be prepared to talk about your recent and past health history, including any medications you may be taking, allergies, and tobacco and alcohol use. This crucial information will help the anesthesia specialist to care for you.

It is important to know that it is not unusual to be concerned or uneasy. During this meeting, you also will be given information about your anesthetic care. We encourage you to ask questions.

On the day of surgery, you may receive medication prior to coming to the operating room. When you arrive at the hospital, the anesthesia team members will greet you, accompany you to the operating room, and place the appropriate monitors necessary for your care. Your anesthesiologist will remain with you in the operating room throughout the surgical procedure to continuously monitor you and ensure that you are safe and pain free.

Using state-of-the-art equipment, we will monitor your heart, blood pressure, blood oxygen and carbon dioxide, the pressures in your heart, and the function of your heart, lungs, kidney, and brain. These monitors help the anesthesiologist make appropriate medical decisions to ensure your safety during the surgery.

After surgery, the anesthesiology team will accompany you to the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (CTICU), and a full report of your operating room care will be given to the CTICU team. Your anesthesiologist will visit you after surgery to check on you and answer any additional questions you may have.