Dear Anesthetist,

This patient, who has a metabolic myopathy, is being referred for pre-anesthetic consultation to allow you time to consider options for anesthesia.

There are some general issues to address which will increase the likelihood of this patient having a safe surgical procedure with rapid recovery from anesthesia. Metabolic myopathy patients may be at increased risk for some peri-operative complications such as hypoglycemia, rhabdomyolysis, acute renal failure and theoretically, malignant hyperthermia. Fasting times should be minimized and dextrose containing solutions can help provide an energy source while the patient is fasting. For these reasons, where possible, scheduling a patient with a metabolic myopathy as the first procedure in the morning will increase the likelihood of same day discharge in situations where that is appropriate to the surgical procedure as recovery from neuromuscular blockade may be prolonged.

If you have questions about this patient’s metabolic myopathy, please call the Adult Metabolic Diseases Clinic at 604.875.5965 (open Mon-Fri 8:00-16:00) and one of our physicians would be happy to discuss the case with you. The risk/benefit balance of any particular anesthetic agent will need to be considered for each individual patient based not only on their diagnosis of their particular metabolic myopathy but also on concomitant medical issues which will be reviewed by you at the consultation.

Thank you for assessing this patient.