

Your child's procedure: What to expect

There are four phases of your child's procedure. There will be a different nurse for each phase.

Before the procedure (about 1½ to 2 hours)

- To get ready for surgery we need to do an exam. This will include height and weight, and vital signs. We will also get your child's medical history and review the consent form.
- Your surgical care team will come in to talk to you. Please ask any questions you have.
- We will let you know about any delays that may occur.
- Just before going into the operating room, your child may get medicine to help them relax.

During the procedure

Please check in to the surgery family waiting area. You will get a tracking number, which will show up on a status board. This lets you know where your child is in the process. If the procedure will last longer than 2 hours, the nurse will talk with you ahead of time about when to expect updates.

- Take care of yourself; get something to eat or drink.
- If you leave the waiting area, check with the attendant and get a pager.
- When the procedure is done, the doctor will come to talk to you. There will be time to ask any questions you have. The operating room nurse will stay with your child during this time.

After the procedure – Recovery Room (about one hour)

Your child will be taken to the Recovery Room. It is the area where your child will wake up from anesthesia. Each child is different, so how long it takes to wake up will vary.

- Each child has their own nurse. The nurse will be checking your child and making sure they are comfortable.
 - The best thing after surgery is for your child to get at least 30 minutes of rest. The rest gives your child's body time to process the anesthesia. This helps with waking up.
 - Your child may wake up crying and be hard to comfort. This should go away as the anesthesia wears off.
- If you are not comfortable in a medical setting, it is OK to ask for phone updates.
- Once your child is awake, one parent can come back to visit. We want you to be with your child as soon as possible. It will help your child if you stay calm and talk quietly to them.
- There are other patients in the recovery area. When you are brought back, please help maintain the privacy of those patients and families.

After the procedure – Post-Op (varies based on procedure)

When ready, your child will be moved to our post-op area.

- Your child will still be monitored closely for safety and comfort.
- Your nurse will review discharge instructions when your child is ready to leave.
- Ask questions. We want you to be ready to take care of your child at home.
- A nurse will give you a follow-up phone call the next business day after your child's procedure.