Don’t forget: Check this list before your child’s surgery or procedure!

How to prepare your child or teen before surgery or procedure:

- Bring all medication bottles, and any other important information about your child, so the doctor can confirm the medicine your child takes.

- Have your child wear eyeglasses on day of surgery/procedure. Do not let your child wear contacts lenses.

- Have transportation arrangements made for when your child leaves the hospital. Taking public transportation is discouraged.

- Remove all make-up and nail polish from your child.

- Remove all jewelry, including body piercings, from your child.

On the day of the surgery or procedure:

We do not advise bringing siblings to the hospital on the day of surgery/procedure.

Consents for surgery/procedure must be signed by the parent or legal guardian if child or teen is under age 18.

A urine sample is taken from female patients over the age of 12. Female patients under the age of 12 who have had a period will also need to give a urine sample. The sample is used for a pregnancy test.

Contact Us

- Pre-Op Clinic, Boston Campus
  617-355-3765
  Arrive 1.5 hours before the procedure
  Main 3

- Day Surgery, Boston Campus
  617-355-7921
  Arrive 1.5 hours before the procedure
  Main 3

- Surgical Center, Waltham Campus
  781-216-1285
  Arrive 1.5 hours before the procedure

- Surgical Center, Lexington Campus
  781-216-3000
  Arrive 1 hour before the procedure

- Gastroenterology Procedure Unit (GPU), Boston Campus
  617-355-6172

- Interventional Radiology, Boston Campus
  7:30am-4:30pm: 617-355-6579
  Arrive 1.5 hours before the procedure

- Radiology (MRI, CT, and Nuclear Medicine)
  8am-6pm: 617-919-7226

- Cardiac Pre-Op Clinic, Boston Campus
  8:30am-4pm: 617-355-6095
  4:30pm-7:30pm: 617-355-0030
  After 7:30pm: 617-355-6363 and ask for Cardiac Fellow to be paged

- Cardiac MRI, Boston Campus
  8am-4pm: 617-355-6024
  4pm-7:30pm: 617-355-0032
  After 7:30pm: 617-355-6363 and ask for Cardiac Fellow to be paged
Eating and Drinking Guidelines

Before a surgery or procedure, eating and drinking are not allowed for certain periods of time. Follow the directions in this brochure carefully to prepare your child.

Why can’t my child eat or drink before a surgery or procedure?

This is to make sure that your child is safe during the surgery or procedure. Food and drink — such as liquids, solid foods, and breast milk — collects in the stomach. When your child goes to sleep, food and liquid can rise up from the stomach and enter the lungs. This can cause pneumonia.

Since different foods move through the stomach at different speeds, it is important to follow the guidelines in this brochure on eating and drinking prior to a surgery or a procedure.

What happens if my child eats or drinks after the time given by the doctor?

If your child eats or drinks after the specified time, the surgery or procedure may have to be delayed or cancelled.

What are examples of clear liquids?

Your child can have clear liquids up until two hours before the procedure or test. Clear liquids include:

- Plain water (NO carbonation)
- Glucose water
- Apple juice (NOT cider)
- Clear Pedialyte

- Stop food, milk, gum, candy, mints, and formula at Midnight, the night before the surgery/procedure
- Stop breast milk 4 hours before the time of the surgery/procedure
- Stop clear liquids 2 hours before the time of the surgery/procedure

Any thickener to feeds, including formula with added rice, Simply Thick or Thick-It, is considered a solid and must be stopped at midnight, the night before the surgery/procedure.

For Waltham patients: For the date and time of your child’s surgery/procedure, please contact your clinic on the back of this brochure.

For all other patients: Your clinic will call you with the date and time of your child’s surgery/procedure.

Notes

Write down any notes or questions you may have here.