

# Preparing Your Child for Surgery

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We look forward to caring for your child. If you have questions, please call our message line at 503-216-5437. A nurse will return your call before 3 p.m. the day before your child's surgery.

## Children's surgery checklist

- Preregister for surgery by calling 503-215-9565.
- Call our child life specialists at 503-216-2298 to schedule a family orientation (recommended).
- Tell the surgeon if your child is taking ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) or aspirin. For your child's safety, it may be necessary to stop giving these medications to the child one or two weeks before surgery.
- Tell the surgeon if your child becomes sick with cold symptoms, fever, vomiting or diarrhea within two days of the scheduled surgery. Sometimes minor illnesses can cause concerns during surgery. Depending on your child's situation, the surgeon may feel it is best to postpone the procedure. Also, tell the surgeon if your child has recently been exposed to any infectious disease, such as measles, mumps, chicken pox, or lice.
- Be prepared to care for your child at home after surgery. Before the day of surgery, stock up on the following items: soup, popsicles, clear liquids (such as Gatorade, soda and apple juice) and acetaminophen (Tylenol).
- If the doctor arranges for your child to have blood tests done before surgery, please go to the outpatient laboratory near the main lobby at Providence St. Vincent. If you have any questions, please call 503-216-7810.
- For your child's safety, be sure to follow the eating and drinking restrictions detailed in this packet on the page titled "Anesthesia and Your Child: What to Expect."
- On the day of surgery, dress your child in comfortable clothes. Bring a couple of your child's favorite comfort items, such as a blanket or a stuffed toy to the hospital with you.
- Come to Gerry Frank Center for Children's Care at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center at your scheduled time of arrival. We look forward to taking good care of your child and you.