

Thank you for choosing Elmhurst Memorial Hospital for your child's surgery. We understand that being admitted to the Hospital for surgery can be unnerving for you and your child. To help eliminate some of that anxiety, we have compiled some information that will help you know what to expect once you arrive.

Your child's surgery is scheduled for (day) _____ (date) _____

Preparing for surgery:

- Your child should not have any aspirin or ibuprofen products for four days prior to surgery. Tylenol and acetaminophen can be used.
- Please plan for one parent to stay with your child during the entire time that he/she is being prepared for and recovering from surgery.
- In order to devote your attention to your child who is having surgery, we recommend leaving other children at home or with another adult who will stay with them outside of the department. Comfortable lounges are located throughout the Hospital and dining/retail shops are available on the first floor.
- Your child may bring a favorite toy or blanket that he/she would like to keep with him/her during surgery. If your child drinks from a bottle or sippy cup, please bring one to use after surgery.

The day before surgery:

- You will be contacted by a Hospital staff member between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. They will give you final instructions, including your arrival time, and answer any questions.

The day of surgery:

- Unless you are given different instructions, your child should not have anything to eat or drink after midnight the night before surgery, including cough drops, hard candy and chewing gum.
- If your child has symptoms of illness on the day of surgery, please contact the surgeon before coming to the Hospital.
- Upon arriving at the Elmhurst Memorial Hospital, 155 E. Brush Hill Rd, Elmhurst, please park in the Green parking lot and enter through the Hospital's main entrance.
- Take the elevators within the Hospital's main lobby to the second floor. The surgery reception desk will be on your left. A staff member or volunteer will greet you.
- To assist you in understanding your child's procedure and recovery, we encourage you to review your child's medical record. Please speak with your child's nurse if you are interested.

Reading books with your child about hospitals can help prepare you and your child for the experience and make it less frightening. A librarian in your neighborhood can recommend appropriate books/materials for your child's age group. We welcome you and your family to tour the surgical area prior to your child's surgery. If you would like to schedule a tour, or if you have any special needs, concerns or questions, feel free to call us at (331) 221-0460. We return all messages received by 5 p.m. the same day.

Warmest regards,

Julie Reinhardt RN, BS, CGRN, Assistant Manager Endoscopy/PAT/PreOP/Recovery