



## OBSERVATION OR OVERNIGHT STAYS

If your child requires a longer monitoring period, you and your child will be taken to a hospital room after the recovery period. Your nurse will orient you to the room and take your child's vital signs. We would like you to stay and participate in your child's care during this time. The length of stay varies greatly upon the type and length of the surgery, your surgeon's preference, and how your child is doing. If your child is required to stay the night, you may be comforted to know that you may stay with them. There is room for one parent to sleep comfortably in your child's room. Please understand, however, that siblings are not allowed to stay the night, as your hospitalized child will require your full attention. Before you and your child leave the hospital, you will receive instructions on how to care for your child at home.

## HELPFUL HINTS

The following will make your child's visit more comfortable:

- Bring a comfort item such as a favorite toy, blanket, stuffed animal or pacifier.
- Be sure clothing is comfortable and loose fitting.
- Bring an extra pair of underwear in case of an accident, which is not uncommon during general anesthesia, regardless of age.
- Bring sippy cup, bottle and formula as appropriate, for use after surgery.
- Remove all jewelry and fingernail polish.
- Bring eye glass/contact lens supplies, as needed.



## IMPORTANT NOTES

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of surgery: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of surgery: \_\_\_\_\_

Surgeon's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

No food after: \_\_\_\_\_

No drink after: \_\_\_\_\_

Other instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call us at (913) 696-8107.

## LOCATION

**Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas**  
5808 West 110th  
Overland Park, KS 66211

## DIRECTIONS

From I-435, exit at Nall and continue south one block to 110th Street. Turn right and arrive at Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas, on your right.



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## SAME DAY SURGERY

At Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas, we know an operation is a major event for you and your child. We want to help make this experience as smooth and comfortable as possible. The department is staffed by the region's top surgeons, nurses and anesthesiologists who specialize in providing care for children. In addition, we have Child Life Specialists on staff each day to help provide activities and comfort for patients of all ages. Our goal is to create a pleasant experience for you and your child.



## WELCOME TO SAME DAY SURGERY

Same Day Surgery is a service specifically designed to handle children requiring surgical procedures. Most children who have surgery at our hospital check in through Same Day Surgery. The majority of our patients will go home shortly after their procedure, but some will stay in the hospital several hours for monitoring (observation stay). Children who require additional care will stay overnight, or possibly longer (morning admission).

This brochure provides you with important information about your child's stay at Children's Mercy.

## PRE-ADMISSION TESTING

A pre-admission testing (PAT) visit is scheduled for children who have chronic or significant medical conditions, complex needs or require lab (blood) work and/or other tests prior to the day of surgery. If you feel your child meets the need for a PAT visit prior to surgery or if you would like more information, please contact Pre-Admission Testing at (816) 802-1238 or toll-free at 1 (888) 561-2403. Appointments are scheduled Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The child must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for these visits.



## HOW TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SURGERY

We know that surgery is a major event for you and your child, so if your child is not identified as needing a PAT visit, we have some additional options available.

To ease some of your worries and learn more information about your day of surgery, we welcome you to visit [childrensmercy.org/preop](http://childrensmercy.org/preop). You and your child can watch a video about having surgery, look at our online picture books and view storybook tours.

The Child Life Department promotes a positive environment for patients and families, based upon the child's needs. If you are interested in talking with a Child Life Specialist about your child's upcoming surgery, and/or would like to schedule a pre-operative teaching session for your child, please call (913) 696-8101 for Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas.

We encourage you to be honest and open with your child about their pending procedure. Be positive, confident and reassuring.

## PRIOR TO SURGERY

About one week prior to surgery, a nurse will call you to discuss your child's medical history. They will want to know about medical conditions, medications, previous surgeries, allergies and any family history that involves complications with anesthesia. Please be sure to let the nurse know about any illness your child may have had within the past two months.

One to two business days before surgery, a nurse will call you to provide your arrival time to Same Day Surgery, as well as your child's eating and drinking instructions. They will also discuss your child's current health and any questions you may have. Please follow these important instructions you receive during this call to ensure your child is ready for surgery. Disregarding the instructions can endanger your child's health, and surgery may be delayed or cancelled. Please have your child shower or bathe the night prior (or morning of) surgery, as this has been shown to decrease the risk of surgical site infections.



## THE DAY OF SURGERY

Please arrive at Same Day Surgery at the time given to you during your pre-op phone call the day before surgery. (This will be 60 to 90 minutes prior to the scheduled surgery time.) You will register at the admissions desk and with the nursing staff. Then you may have a seat in the waiting room. Because our space is limited, we ask that only two adults accompany the patient. Please make other arrangements for siblings, because the child having surgery will need your full attention. We ask that no one who is ill accompany the patient.

A nurse will invite you and your child to an examination room, where you will help your child change into a gown and slippers. The nurse will then obtain your child's height, weight and vital signs, and ask when your child last had something to eat and drink. You will then be interviewed by an anesthesiologist and talk with your child's surgeon. When it is time for surgery, a nurse from the operating room will direct you to the surgery family waiting room and take your child to surgery. During the operation and recovery period, you will need to stay in the waiting room.

