Your child had a laparoscopic fundoplication. This surgery is to help correct the symptoms related to gastroesophageal reflux. The procedure was done through 5 small incisions. One of the incisions is in the umbilicus (bellybutton) and the other 4 are on the abdominal wall. The umbilical incision is covered with a dressing. The other incisions are covered with a strip of white tape and/or a glue-like dressing.

**After-surgery care instructions:**

**Bathing** – Your child may bathe or shower on the fifth day after surgery (__________). Until then, sponge bathe your child and avoid getting the incisions wet. After 5 days, remove the dressing over the belly button. Your child may then begin to take a bath or shower and get all the incisions wet. The tape and other dressings should fall off once they start getting wet.

**Pain medicine** – Pain medicine will be prescribed for your child when he is dismissed from the hospital. The medicine is usually prescribed to be given every 6 hours (day and night) for the first 2 days after going home and then as needed every 6 hours. Give your child this medicine as prescribed.

**Diet** – Your child should be on a soft/liquid diet until he sees the doctor for a post-operative visit, usually within 10-14 days after surgery. A soft liquid diet includes milk shakes, applesauce, yogurt, and most cooked vegetables. These foods are easier to digest. This soft/liquid diet is needed because of the swelling that occurs at the site of the fundoplication. The swelling makes it hard to pass large bites of food. Your child should **not** eat anything that has to be chewed, such as meat, pizza or toast.

**Other medicines** – Your child should continue the medicines for gastroesophageal reflux that were being given before the operation. These medicines may be stopped at the postoperative visit, as directed by your child’s physician.

**Follow-up appointment:**

An appointment for your child is generally made 10 days to 2 weeks after the surgery. Call to schedule an appointment if it was not made before your child was sent home.

**Children’s Mercy Hospital Surgery Clinic:** (816) 234-3199  
**Children’s Mercy South Clinic:** (913) 696-8570

Call your child’s health care provider or the Children’s Mercy Hospital Information Line at (816) 234-3188 if:

- Your child is not eating or drinking.  
- Your child is not urinating or having wet diapers.  
- There is redness, swelling or drainage at the incision site(s).  
- Your child is having pain not relieved by the prescribed pain medicine.  
- You have questions or concerns.