



**Abbreviations (laboratory & radiology excluded):**

pt. = patient  
SDS = Same Day Surgery  
OR = Operating Room  
IV = intravenous  
PO = by mouth  
PACU = Post-anesthesia Care Unit

Prior to surgery pt/family meets:

- Pre-op nurse
- Anesthesia
- Surgeon
- Child Life Specialists

Arrival to SDS for check in

Presurgical medications administered:  
Gabapentin (loading dose: 10mg/kg)

**Prior to incision:**

- Decadron (typical dosage range: 0.2 - 0.5 mg/kg)
- Tylenol IV (dosage 12.5 mg/kg IV)
- Local anesthesia and antibiotics

**Consider during surgical case:**

- Dexmedetomidine HCl (typical dosage range: 0.25 - 1.0 mcg/kg)
- Long acting opioid titrated to effect (morphine or hydromorphone hydrochloride)

Prior to leaving operating room:  
• Extubate  
• Apply elbow immobilizers

Transfer to PACU

Does pt. meet  
anesthesia discharge  
criteria?

Continue monitoring in PACU

Consult with anesthesia for disposition

Transfer to Inpatient Unit

**Monitor vital signs to include:**

- Pediatric Anesthesia Emergence Delirium Scale
- Pain scores

**Administer comfort measures:**

- Opioids for effect
- Distraction therapy
- Starts PO if tolerates
- Reunite with family

PACU handoff to Inpatient Nurse and Family:

- Nurses responsible for care (PACU/Inpatient)
- Length of time in PACU
- Medications administered in the OR and PACU (including analgesics),
- If PO was initiated and amount
- Pt.'s overall progress during PACU stay

**OR Pharmacist**

24 hours prior to surgery

- Check OR schedule for cleft lip/palate repair cases

Day of surgery

- Check for current weight and mix IV Tylenol

Additional algorithms:

- Prior to Surgery
- Inpatient stay