



# **Our Surgery Center**

# Welcome to Ochsner's Surgery Center

This is where you will  
have your heart  
surgery.



When you  
arrive...

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You will get  
checked-in at  
the front desk.

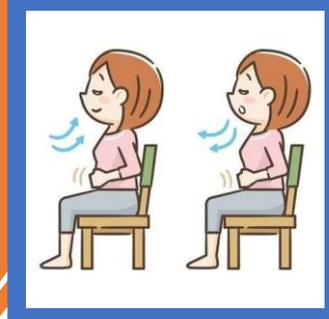


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After you check in, you will wait in the waiting area.



It is important for you to be brave and calm while you are at the hospital.



You can take deep breaths. It helps you to be calm when you take deep breaths.



You can listen to music. It helps you to be calm when you listen to music.



You can watch my favorite video. It helps you to be calm when you watch your favorite video.



You can hold someone's hand. It helps you to be calm when someone holds your hand.

# The Get Ready Room

When your name is called, you will go to a “get ready room.” In this room you will meet your doctors, anesthesiologist, nurses, and a Child Life Specialist.



To get ready for surgery, you will put on a hospital gown. You can lay in the bed or sit in the chair, it's your choice.



# Your nurse will do a few tests when you arrive.

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The nurse will weigh you to see how big you are.



The nurse will take your temperature on your forehead.



The nurse will take your blood pressure. This will feel like a tight hug on your arm or leg.



The nurse will check your breathing with a pulse oximeter. This will feel like a sticker on your finger or toe.



The nurse will ask your mom and dad questions about you.



# Child Life Specialist

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- You will also meet a Child Life Specialist. Their job is to teach you about what you will see, hear, and feel while you are in the hospital.
- They will show you a special mask that helps give you sleepy medicine. This medicine is called anesthesia. It makes sure you won't feel or remember anything during your surgery. No lights, sounds, or touches can wake you up with this medicine.
- To get your sleepy medicine, you will take big deep breaths into your special mask.
- When your surgery is all done, the anesthesiologist stops giving your body the sleep medicine and your body will start to wake up.



This is your  
anesthesia mask.

# Relaxing Medicine

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When it is almost time to go to surgery, you will get some medicine to help you relax. You can drink this from a cup or a syringe. It is important for you to drink it all to help your body feel calm.



# The Surgery Room

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- When it is time for your surgery, you will give see you later hugs and kisses to your family and go into the surgery room. This is where you will use your special mask to breath in the sleepy medicine.
- There are many machines in the surgery room, but they are not all for your body. Our surgery room is like a kitchen, there are lots of tools, but we don't use them all at the same time.
- Your child life specialist may go with you and can bring toys and an iPad to watch shows, play games or listen to music.
- Your doctors and nurses will be with you the whole time you are in the surgery room. They make sure your body stays safe.



# Your Hospital Room

- After your surgery, you will wake up in your hospital room. Your parents will be there too.
- You will see special machines in your room which are helping your body heal. There will also be special medicine straws, stickers, bandages, and tubes on your body. Those also help your body to heal.
- You will meet another child life specialist who can bring you toys, movies, and games. They also can teach you more about being in the hospital.
- You will stay in the hospital for a few days until the doctors decide your body is healed and strong enough to go home.



# Medical Team Glossary

- **Child Life Specialist:** a person who will help explain any procedures or tests that may need to be done while you are in the hospital. They also provide fun things for you to do in the hospital to help make more fun and less scary.
- **Nurse:** a person who will help give you medicine and watch all of your monitors to help your body heal.
- **Surgeon:** a doctor that specializes in performing surgery.
- **Anesthesiologist:** a doctor that specializes in helping you go to sleep before surgery so that you don't feel anything that hurts during your surgery.
- **Hospitalist:** a special doctor that works on the hospital floor to take care of you.
- **Respiratory Therapist:** a person that helps take care of your lungs while you are in the hospital and makes sure you are taking good deep breaths while recovering from surgery.

For more information about the contents of this book  
or if you would like to speak to a Certified Child Life  
Specialist, please call:

504-703-8274

