

DAY OF SURGERY Checklist

- ☐ List of current medications and dosages
(best to bring bottles or packages with you)
- ☐ Reports from any special studies your child
may have had (i.e. Echo cardiograms)
- ☐ An empty bottle or cup
- ☐ A special toy or blanket
- ☐ Remove nail polish, jewelry and makeup
Please do not wear contact lenses
- ☐ No food or drinks in the preoperative area
because the children are not allowed to eat
or drink
- ☐ Preoperative feeding instructions. Although
some surgical procedures may be brief, the
anesthetic is never minor. These procedures
must be followed for all children
- ☐ At midnight the evening before
surgery, stop all food including all
orange juice, solids, candy, gum, milk
and milk products, formulas and
cereal.
- ☐ Your child may breast feed until 3
hours prior to the time you are **told
to be at the hospital.**
- ☐ Your child may drink clear fluids until
2 hours prior to the time you are **told
to be at the hospital.** Clear fluids
include water, apple juice, clear juices
without pulp, soda, pedialyte and
- ☐ If your child is ill prior to coming to the
hospital (wheezing, fever, vomiting), call
your surgeon.

Mercy Hospital St. Louis P. A. C. E.

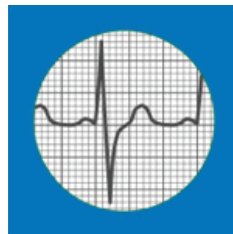
PRE-ANESTHESIOLOGY CONSULTATION AND EVALUATION

is available for the preoperative
evaluation of pediatric patients.

Questions or concerns regarding
anesthesia care can be
addressed by calling the clinic at
314-251-5200



NOTES:



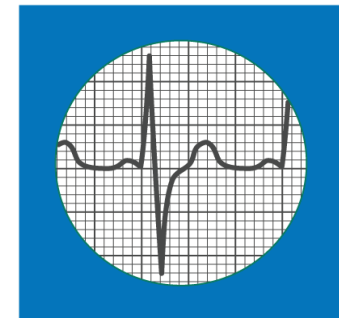
WESTERN ANESTHESIOLOGY
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ANESTHESIA FOR CHILDREN
at Mercy Hospital St. Louis



WESTERN ANESTHESIOLOGY
ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED



**Pediatric
Anesthesiology
Specialists**

The Anesthesia Care Team at Mercy Hospital St. Louis

Just as there are doctors who specialize in different aspects of children's care both in and out of the hospital, there are doctors called anesthesiologists with special training in the anesthetic care of children. Anesthesiologists personally perform or medically direct nurse anesthetists to provide the anesthetic given to your child.

Getting Your Child Prepared

Hospital visits are anxious times for parents and their children. There will be many doctors, nurses and other people who will try to make the entire operative period as pleasant and comfortable for your child as possible. However, parents have a key role in preparing their children for the day of surgery. Children tolerate surgery and anesthesia better when their anxieties are minimized by discussing the events that they can expect beforehand. Prepare them to see other children and lots of people wearing pajamas and shower caps talking to parents and children.



What Will the Anesthesiologist Be Doing for My Child?

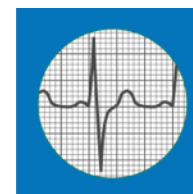
The main goal of anesthesiologists is to provide safe conditions during surgery and comfort when the procedure is over. They monitor breathing, heart rate, blood pressure, oxygenation and are on guard for unexpected events which, although rare, may happen during surgery. This begins by making sure that your child is in the best possible condition prior to surgery. You will be asked questions regarding their general health, prior to surgery and anesthesia, and whether there has been any family history of difficulties with anesthesia or surgery. Please bring a list of any medications with dosages that your child takes either regularly or as needed. The planned anesthetic technique will be explained to you, and you are encouraged to ask questions regarding any operative concerns that you have.

Most children require medicine to ease the separation from their parents. This medication is usually given by mouth, but the anesthesiologist will select the type of medication and route of administration that is best for your child.

Anesthesia in children is usually started by letting them breathe anesthetic agents through a mask until they are unconscious with no needles until after they are asleep. The choice will be made by the anesthesiologist with your child's safety being the most important factor.



Upon awaking, some children are very alert and some are sleepy for hours. Your child will continue to be monitored closely in the Post Anesthetic Care Unit to ensure that they have good pain control. Pain management usually begins before the surgery starts as many of our pre medications have some "painkillers" included. This is usually supplemented after your child is asleep with intravenous injections or the injection of local anesthetics or numbing medicine. Nausea and vomiting are occasional side effects after surgery but are treated very aggressively at Mercy Hospital St. Louis if they occur.



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