

## Day Surgery Unit

### Information for children attending Day Surgery Unit having a General Anaesthetic

This leaflet aims to provide you with the information you need to prepare you for your child's stay in the Day Surgery Unit

**If your child is unable to attend for your appointment date it is most important that you advise staff at the Day Surgery Unit as soon as possible, so that your place can be allocated to another patient. Contact the Unit's direct line on 024 7696 6826**

Your child will have a general anaesthetic, which means he/she will be asleep for the operation.

If your child is unwell during the week prior to admission please seek advice from your family doctor regarding any necessary treatment, and check whether the admission to the Day Surgery Unit should proceed.

If your child has a high temperature the operation will be postponed and another date will be arranged.

Please note that the cancellation of an operation is rare and will only occur in unforeseen circumstances.

If you have any queries or concerns about your child's admission please contact: the Day Surgery Unit on 024 7696 6826 Reception or 024 7696 6850 Or 024 7696 6868 Ward.

The Day Surgery reception is staffed from 7.30am until 5.00pm Monday – Friday, and an answer phone is available for out of hour's calls.



## General Information

**Please note: Only two adults are allowed by the child's bedside at one time**

**Strictly no siblings/children are permitted on to the ward**

**Your child, up to the age of 16 years, should be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. In the case of a Legal guardian please could you bring documented verification.**

**Theatre session times are: 8.30am to 12.30pm**

**1.30pm to 5.30pm**

Operations or procedures are planned for morning or afternoon sessions and this will determine your child's time of arrival at the Unit.

**Your child's surgery session and arrival time is stated on your letter of admission**

- If your child smokes it is advisable for them to cut down or refrain from smoking for two days prior to admission as this will aid post operative recovery.
- The Day Surgery Unit is a mixed sex and open plan ward, however your child's privacy and dignity will be maintained at all times.
- **Please advise us if your child is taking any complementary or alternative therapies including herbal tablets.**

## How to prepare your child

- Please make sure you have enough Calpol, Paracetamol etc. for your child's pain relief after surgery. **You must not give aspirin to your child**
- You should tell your child in a simple and truthful way why they are being admitted to the Day Unit
- Reassure him/her that you will stay with them throughout their admission

## Patient Information

- They may have a small injection, but this will only be after magic cream (local anaesthetic) is used.  
Please remove any make-up or nail varnish your child may be wearing

### What to bring for your child's stay

- Slippers
- Dressing gown
- Any medicines, including inhalers, which your child is taking at present
- Your child's favourite toy, book, and/or comforter
- Your child's drinking cup or bottle

### What not to bring

- Valuables including jewellery and mobile phones
- Large amounts of money (small change is useful for telephone etc)
- Food and drink

### On the day of your child's admission

Your child should have a bath or shower before admission.

### Fasting instructions on the day of admission

Please ensure that the fasting times are followed to prevent cancellation of surgery after admission.

<b>For MORNING Operations</b>	<b>STOP TAKING AT:</b>
Food or milk	2:30 am
Breast milk	4:30 am
Water or squash (not juice)	Arrival to hospital
*Please do not chew gum/suck sweets on the day of surgery*	

## Patient Information

<b>For AFTERNOON Operations</b>	<b>STOP TAKING AT:</b>
Food or milk	7:30 am
Breast milk	9:30 am
Water or squash (not juice)	Arrival to hospital
*Please do not chew gum/suck sweets on the day of surgery*	

### Medicines

Please give your child, with a sip of water, any medicines prescribed for:

- Epilepsy
- Asthma

Please consult your GP if you are uncertain about your child's medication.

Bring **all** your child's medication with you to the hospital.

Please contact the Day Surgery Unit if your child is taking any herbal or complementary tablets.

### On Arrival

You and your child should report to reception for registration

Nursing staff will allocate your child a bed; assist you in completing the admission documents and prepare your child for surgery. They will involve both yourself and your child in sharing decisions regarding their care.

You and your child will be introduced to your child's Named Nurse.

Your child's consultant surgeon, or his deputy, and the anaesthetist will assess your child and you will be asked to sign a consent form for surgery and the anaesthetic.

You will be given information regarding your child's operation, and after care, and general information such as play facilities.

## Patient Information

### **Discharge Information**

It is usual for Day Surgery patients to return home at the end of the operating session.

Information will be given to you prior to discharge regarding:

- Pain management
- Wound care
- Effects of general anaesthesia
- Who to contact in an emergency

It is important that your child is accompanied home by a parent or legal guardian. We would also advise that another adult apart from the car driver be available on the journey home.

Your child must not walk or travel by public transport.

These arrangements should be made prior to your child's admission.

Your child should not be left alone for 24 hours after discharge (or longer if advised).

They should not attend school or nursery for at least 48 hours. This will be discussed with you before your child is discharged.

- No riding bicycles
- No contact sports
- No play apparatus
- No strenuous activities

Please ensure your child does not lock the bathroom door.

Teaching students is an important part of the work of University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust. Students who are working and learning in this department may be involved in your care. If you have any concerns about this or wish to refuse their involvement, please inform the nurse in charge of the area.

## Patient Information

We hope this information will help to prepare you for your visit to the Day Surgery Unit. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the staff at the Unit on 024 7696 6826.

We look forward to meeting both you and your child.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please contact us on 024 7696 6826 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

To give feedback on this leaflet please email [feedback@uhcw.nhs.uk](mailto:feedback@uhcw.nhs.uk)

<b>Document History</b>	
Department:	Day Surgery unit
Contact:	26845
Updated:	April 2021
Review:	April 2023
Version:	7
Reference:	HIC/LFT/739/08