

PREPARING FOR SURGERY

It helps to be prepared for your child's surgery in advance. That ensures that you are aware of what and how things are going to happen. The main parts to preparing for your child's surgery are -

A. Knowing about the surgery

It is important for you to know about your child's surgery.

Why it has to be done. What will be done. How it will be done. Is it a 'day care' surgery? Is there an option for 'Laparoscopy', 'minimally invasive surgery', 'Robotic surgery'?

What are the benefits of the surgery and the risks involved. What is the long term outcome after surgery?

B. Planning finances

Have you fully understood the cost of the surgery?

For day care surgeries, usually a 'package' cost can be given. This assumes a single day stay.

For bigger surgeries, there are many costs involved – cost of surgery, cost of stay, cost of intensive care (if any), cost of investigations and cost of medicines.

If you have insurance then please check with the company if your child's surgery is covered. You can take a photo of your doctors advise notes and send it to the company.

Many policies do not cover 'congenital' or 'birth' defects. You need to ask the company directly about this. It may also be written in your policy document.

If you wish to avail of 'cashless' service, then your policy will allow certain hospitals and certain procedures only. This needs to be discussed with the insurance company well in advance and certainly before booking the surgery. Last minute cashless applications waste a lot of resources and will delay your child's surgery.

C. Day of surgery

For 'day care' surgery, you can bring the child 'fasting' one or two hours before the surgery. Remember to pack for a day's stay in case you may need to. As your discharge will be on the same day, understand all instructions for home care after surgery.

For bigger surgeries, usually you have to be admitted the day before surgery and, maybe undergo some tests.

PREPARING FOR SURGERY

D. Fasting

Fasting times are important to understand. Please download our leaflet on Fasting Guidelines to understand this better