Child Life Services
Child life specialists are available to help your child understand the Hospital environment and ease any fears. In order to help provide comfort to your child, we encourage you to bring a favorite item (blanket, pillow, stuffed animal) from home to accompany them on their day of surgery.

Pre-Surgical Tours
You and your child have the opportunity to tour and explore the Hospital before the day of surgery.

If you are interested in scheduling a pre-surgical tour, please make an appointment by calling 210.704.8788.

Thank you for choosing The Children’s Hospital of San Antonio for your child’s surgery. Our goal is to provide the best care possible for your child and family. We strive to keep families together as much as possible throughout the surgery experience.

We look forward to helping your during your visit and will make every effort to make this a positive and enriching experience.

Your Child’s Surgery
Your child is scheduled for surgery on

With Dr.

☐ Mon ☐ Tue ☐ Wed ☐ Thu ☐ Fri

Please plan to arrive at the Hospital by

Please do not allow your child to have any food after _________________ a.m. / p.m.

Clear liquid only until
_______________ a.m. / p.m.
(water, apple juice, white grape juice, sprite)

Nothing after _________________ a.m. / p.m.

The Children’s Hospital of San Antonio complies with applicable Federal civil rights law and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn.
Our Surgical Team
The Children’s Hospital of San Antonio is staffed with highly skilled surgical professionals who specialize in the care of children. Our team is dedicated to achieving the best possible outcome for every patient. Our Associates are sensitive to the feelings of anxiety and fear that your child may experience about surgery and the unfamiliar environment of a hospital, and will make every effort to provide comfort during your child’s stay.

Getting Ready For Surgery
Here are a few things you should know prior to surgery day:
- Please follow your physician’s instructions regarding eating and drinking prior to surgery.
- Bring a photo ID and your child’s health insurance card to the Hospital.
- Bring an accurate list of any medications your child is currently taking.
- If your child takes any medications routinely at home, please ask your physician for special instructions for your child’s day of surgery.
- A parent or legal guardian must accompany your child to the Hospital and remain with them throughout their hospital stay.
- If your child develops a rash, fever, cough, diarrhea, or any illness prior to surgery, please notify your physician immediately.

The Day of Surgery
On your child’s day of surgery, you will:
- Arrive two hours prior to your child’s surgery time, unless otherwise instructed by your child’s physician.
- Report to surgery registration located on the second floor to register and complete necessary paperwork.
- In Pre-Op/Holding
  - If your child is female and 10 years or older, please notify an Associate if your child needs to go to the bathroom as it is necessary to obtain a urine specimen before receiving sedation/anesthesia.
  - Your nurse/certified nurse’s aide will bring you to a room and begin taking your child’s vital signs.
  - Your nurse will interview you regarding your child’s health history and family history.
  - You will meet your surgeon and anesthesiologist and have the opportunity to ask questions regarding your child’s procedure, recovery and care at home.
  - We ask that you stay in your room as much as possible to respect the privacy of other patients.
  - While waiting, spiritual care and child life specialists are available to offer support to your child and family.
  - Please continue clinic instructions to keep your child from drinking or eating in the pre-op area.
  - While every effort is made to begin your child’s procedure as scheduled, delays may occur due to emergent situations.

In Surgery
- When it is time for your child’s procedure, an Associate will escort your child to the procedure room and family will be escorted to the waiting room.
- We ask that one family member remain in the waiting room at all times while your child is in the procedure.
- Upon completion of your child’s procedure, the Surgeon will update you on your child’s status.
- Approximately 30 minutes after you have talked with your surgeon, an Associate will call you to be with them in recovery.

In Recovery
- Your child’s nurse will monitor your child closely for approximately 30 minutes to one hour, unless otherwise indicated.
- The number of visitors allowed at the bedside in recovery is at the discretion of your child’s primary nurse. Most of the time recovery room allows two family members at the bedside.
- Your skilled recovery nurse will monitoring your child for potential post-operative complications and side effects from anesthesia and sedation.

In Phase Two Recovery
- To ensure your child’s safety before going home, your child will spend approximately 30 minutes to one hour of additional observation, unless otherwise indicated.
- In Phase Two Recovery, your nurse will give you verbal and written instructions on care following your child’s procedure or surgery.
- School excuses and work excuses are available from an Associate.
- An Associate will provide you with information on how to contact your physician in an emergency or if you have any concerns.
- For questions regarding parking, please contact 210.704.4375.

Thank you for giving us the privilege to care for your child today. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.