

PARENTAL INFORMATION
| ANAESTHESIA

...about the operation



In the near future we will operate on your child at the Children's Hospital. Surely you have already wondered how anaesthesia (narcosis) and the operation will take place, and how you can prepare and support your child for this.

This brochure describes a possible course of action before, during and after the operation.

We wish you and your child a good stay at the Children's Hospital!

Before hospital admission

In a letter you will be informed about the date of admission, date of operation and about the documents which the hospital requires from you (e.g. insurance card).

Before the operation

Discussions with the ward physician, nurse and anaesthetist will take place before the operation. The anaesthetist is responsible for anaesthesia.

Several specialists work together for the well-being of your child. It is therefore possible that you will be repeatedly asked the same questions by different parties. Please consider this a safety factor.

The discussion with the anaesthetist, the so-called «premedication visit», takes place on the day (before) the operation during a planned hospital stay of several days.

With outpatient interventions this discussion occurs days to weeks beforehand in the anaesthesia consultation.



The anaesthetist will obtain information about your child's current state of health and medical history. He will discuss the anaesthesia procedure and anaesthetic technique with you and your child. He will also inform you about possible risks and adverse effects of anaesthesia and inform you about pain therapy after the operation. He will advise you how long your child may eat or drink before the operation and whether they will receive a sedative before anaesthesia. You will be informed about caring for your child after the operation and about when and where you can see your child again.

Your child should have bathed or showered before admission to hospital. You should also bring along a few personal items such as cuddly toys, perhaps special foods or own medication. You will find more information on this, including a packing list, in the parental information entitled «The hospital stay».

We ask you not to bring along any siblings or visitors so that your child gets your full attention on the day of the operation.

On the day of the operation

Depending on the prescription and as discussed, your child will receive a sedative in the form of a tablet, suppository or as a syrup some time before the anaesthesia.

Accompaniment in the operating room

Accompaniment by a parent in the anterooms of the operating theatre until your child falls asleep is possible after consultation with the anaesthetist.

Start of anaesthesia

Your child will fall asleep in the anaesthesia preparation room. This occurs either by inhalation of anaesthetic gases via a mask or by being injected

with a sleep-inducing drug. The intravenous drip for the administration of fluid and analgesic is frequently only inserted once the child is asleep. Immediately after that you will be escorted to the nursing ward by the nurse.

The emotional stress for you as parents during the initiation of anaesthesia as well as when parting from the sleeping child is not to be underestimated. That is why you should consider in advance whether you accompany your child into the operating theatre or already want to say goodbye to them beforehand. Discuss this with the nurse or anaesthetist.



Now the time of waiting starts for you, which you can arrange individually. The Children's Hospital has compiled an information brochure with regard to bridging waiting times. Contact the nurse if you have any further questions.

After the operation

During the recovery phase from the anaesthesia you and your child will be cared for by a nurse on the recovery ward. Circulation, respiration and consciousness will be regularly monitored during this period. Restless-

ness, hoarseness, pain or nausea occasionally occurs. Your presence has a calming effect on your child. Personal and familiar objects also give your child a feeling of safety and security.





Awake again

After the recovery phase and close monitoring your child will be transferred back to the nursing ward. The ward nurse is your contact person and will inform you about the further procedure.

The described course of events can change in a particular case. If this should be the case with your child, we will endeavour to inform you in due time.

We are obligated to treat emergency cases immediately. That is why waiting times and postponements of planned operations can occasionally occur. We ask for your understanding.