

## **General Preoperative Instructions for Children**

### **Surgery Start Time**

When you schedule your child's surgical procedure, our office staff will give you a tentative start time as well as the time that you should arrive at the facility. You should be aware that sometimes this will change. You should receive a telephone call on the day before the surgery to verify times. If for some reason you do not receive this call by 3 PM on the day before your surgery, please call our office at 972-253-4250. Also please be sure that our office has a good working phone number for you.

### **Preoperative Testing**

Most surgeries will require some basic blood tests prior to surgery. Likewise, radiology tests such as a chest x-ray may be necessary as well. Our staff will inform you which tests are necessary for you when you schedule the surgery. These tests will be performed in the MSCI lab on the first floor of our office building.

### **Medications**

Be sure that you have given your surgeon an up-to-date list of your child's regular medications. Most medications should be taken regularly, including on the day of surgery.

### **Sickness or illness around the time of surgery**

Respiratory infections with fever, coughing, or wheezing will increase the risk of complications related to anesthesia. If your child develops an illness such as this during the week before the surgery, then please notify our office because we may need to postpone the surgery until the illness is resolved. Ear infections without coughing or wheezing will usually not prevent the surgery from taking place.

### **On the day of surgery**

Do not let your child eat or drink anything after midnight prior to your surgery. If your child's surgery is scheduled for the afternoon, then he or she may drink up to 6 ounces of apple juice or water before 8 AM but nothing at all during the four hours prior to the surgery. If you violate this rule then your child's surgery will likely be cancelled. This is for your child's safety and it is very important. Please arrive at the appropriate facility on time. Most facilities require some time to register at the front desk, so arriving near the scheduled surgery start time will delay the surgery. After surgery, you will be given instructions about postoperative care and prescriptions.

### **Follow-up Care**

You will receive post-operative instructions that are specific for the type of surgery that your child is having. If you have any questions or concerns during the recovery period, please do not hesitate to call our office at (972-253-4250). You should make a follow-up appointment after your surgery. In most cases, this should be 2-4 weeks after your surgery.