



Having Surgery

PEDIATRICS



Glossary

Anesthesia: Special medicine that makes your child sleep and feel no pain during surgery.

Anesthesiologist: A doctor, known to your child as the “sleep doctor”, who’s specially trained to give children anesthesia or “sleepy medicine”.

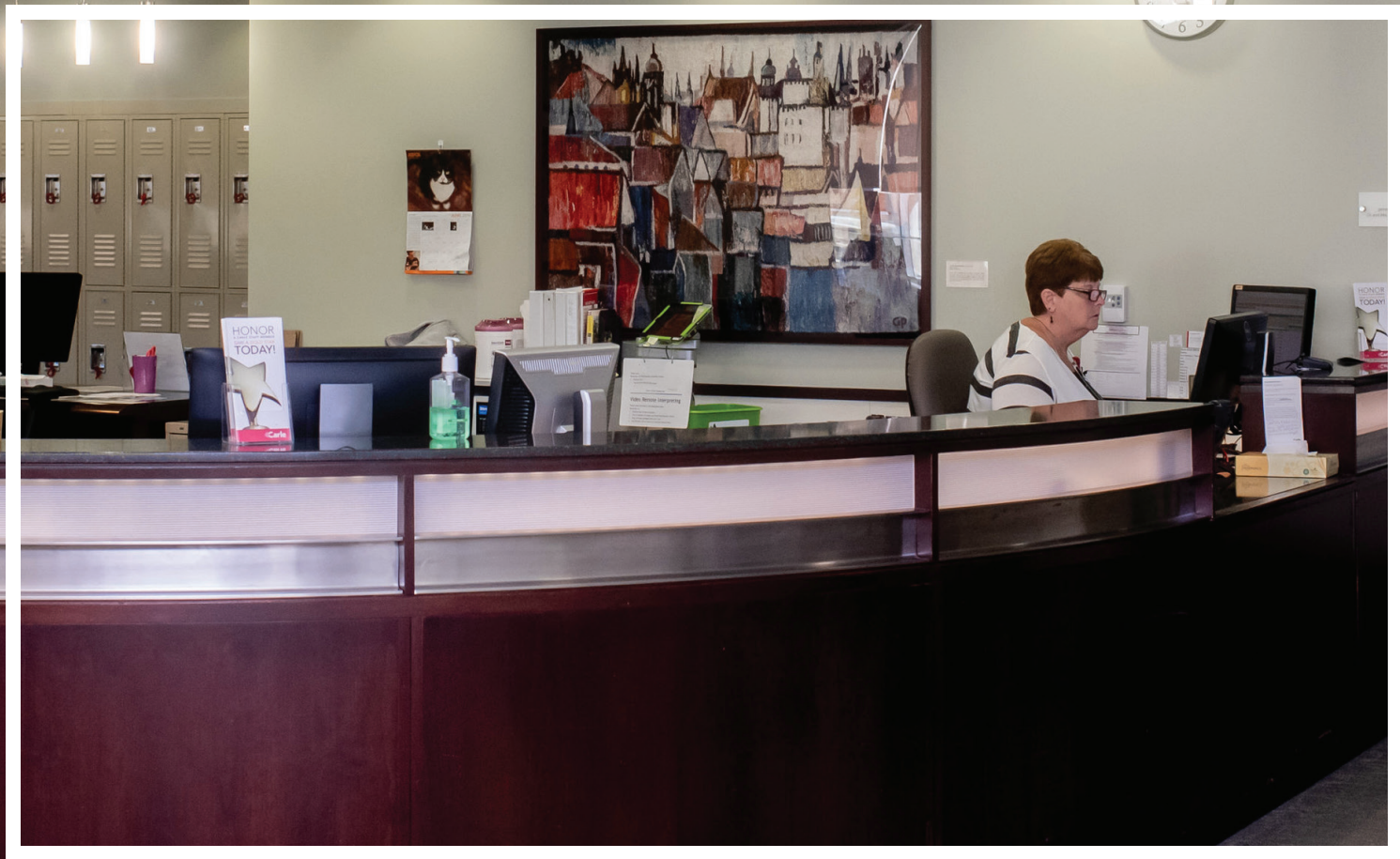
IV or intravenous: A small plastic tube inserted into the hand or arm and used to give fluid and medications during, and immediately after, surgery.

CRNA: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. A nurse who specializes in giving anesthesia.

Pre-medication: Medication, usually given by mouth in a cup or syringe, to help a child begin to relax before surgery.

Recovery Room: A special room for the time after surgery. Also known as the PACU (Post-Anesthesia Care Unit), nurses are specially trained to monitor patients coming out of anesthesia.

Vital Signs: Your child’s blood pressure, temperature, breathing, pain level and weight.





Surgery: Front Desk

Your journey begins here. When you get to the hospital, you'll take the elevator to the second floor. You and your friends or family will go to the check-in desk to say you're here for surgery. When the nurse is ready they'll show you to a room.



The waiting area also has an area just for you. While you are waiting, you can play, read, watch TV or color.







Infant and Toddler Room

This is where you'll wait with your friends and family until you're ready for surgery. You'll change into special hospital clothes, called a gown, and you can even watch TV while you wait. You'll also wear a special bracelet with your name and birthday on it.



School Age and Adolescent Room

This is where you'll wait until you're ready for surgery. You'll change into a gown, and you can even watch TV while you wait. You'll also wear a special bracelet with your name and birthday on it.







Your nurse will check your blood pressure, temperature, and listen to your heart. You'll meet a lot of different people from the hospital before surgery. One of them is the anesthesiologist, who is the doctor who will give you the sleeping medicine. The doctor and nurses will talk to your friends or family about your surgery.

What would you like to do while they talk?



You may go to sleep with the help of a mask, like the one pictured here. The mask can do fun things like blow bubbles, but your job is to take deep breaths with your mask - blow in and out like, you're blowing out birthday candles or blowing up a balloon.







You may get to sleep with the help of an IV. An IV, which means intravenous, is a small straw that stays in your vein. Through your IV, you get medicine and water that your body needs. There will also be tape around your IV so it can stay in place. Your job is to stay still and take deep breaths while you're getting your IV.



The nurses and doctors you see today will be dressed in blue clothes. When you're wheeled back to the operating room (OR) you'll see them all wearing hats, masks and shoe covers. This is to protect you from germs.







The Operating Room

This is where you'll go for your surgery. In this room, you'll see a lot of special machines used to keep you safe during your surgery.



When you're in the operating room, the nurses will help you move to a special surgery bed. You'll get cozy blankets to keep you warm. There will also be a seatbelt that goes across your legs to keep you safe on the bed.

What all do you see in this picture?

I spy: a bed, a blanket, lights, and a monitor screen. Can you find those items in this picture? What else do you see?







Remember the mask you practiced breathing in? A special doctor, called an anesthesiologist, gives you special medicine through your mask to help you fall asleep. You'll fall asleep very quickly and you won't wake up during your surgery because the anesthesiologist will watch you the whole time. Your job is to breathe with the mask on and think of what you'll dream about when you fall asleep.

When your surgery is over, the doctor will stop giving you the sleepy medicine, and you'll wake up.



Recovery

This is the recovery room where you'll wake up after your surgery. A nurse will take care of you while you wake up. When you do, you'll see a blood pressure cuff on your arm and something on your finger to measure your oxygen. It has a bright red light but it won't hurt your finger. You'll also have patches that feel sticky on your chest so the doctors and nurses know you're doing okay. The nurse will take you to your friends or family after you're awake.







You might wake up with an IV taped to your arm or hand. Its job is to give your body special medicine and water you need. The tape and IV will be taken off before you leave the hospital.



Discharge

Once you've had something to eat and drink and your nurse says you're ready to go home, you'll leave in a wheelchair. You did it, great job!

611 W. Park Street, Urbana, IL 61801 | (217) 383-3311 | carle.org

The Carle Foundation complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws 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. Llame al 1-217-383-2543. UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1-217-326-0340.



05185K