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Visiting the Children's Surgery Center

Social Narrative

A note to caregivers:

This social narrative has been written to help you and your child prepare for your visit to the Children's Surgery Center. Social Narratives are clearly written stories that paint a picture of a situation, event or activity. They can be used to increase understanding of a specific situation and help children prepare ahead of time.

This social narrative was written for patients of different ages and language levels. Please use language your child is familiar with at home or when visiting a doctor.

Read this first and choose what information you think will be helpful. Reviewing this with your child before your visit is helpful for many children. However, you may decide that a social narrative is not the best way to prepare your child. You know your child best.

If you decide the social narrative provides too much information and your child would do better with a visual schedule, please feel free to use the picture schedule that was also sent to you.

This story will go over the steps of coming to the Children's Surgery Center to prepare for surgery. We also have a short video that you can watch with your child, that shows them what they can expect. <https://youtu.be/fHkwkegRGDU?si=5q1p4ctkMYwuZfFe>

If your child may have difficulty waiting/checking in, please let our team know during your pre-op call so our team can make a plan to support you and your child upon your arrival.

Sincerely,

The UC Davis Health PATH Program Team

I am going to visit the
Children's Surgery Center at
the Hospital.

The doctors are helping keep
my body healthy.



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First, I am going to check in at the front desk.



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Next, I will wait for my name to be called.

I can play with a favorite toy, read a book or sing a song to help me wait.

This will help me be brave while I am waiting.



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When my name is called I will walk with the nurse and my parents to the Pre-Op Bay.

I will get to be on my own bed to get ready for surgery.



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Nurses and a Child Life Specialist may come talk to me. They will take my weight and temperature to make sure I am ready for surgery.



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The nurse will also listen to my heart and take my blood pressure.

It is important they make sure I am ready for surgery.



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They will give me hospital pajamas and a bracelet on my wrist.

Everyone is proud to see how brave I am!



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While I wait, I can play with toys, read a book or watch a movie.



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The doctors will come into my room and talk to my parents.

They all want to make sure I am safe and healthy.



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When the doctors are ready I may get some relaxing medicine before I ride on my bed to the operating room.



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The operating room has lots of things to help the doctors and nurses take good care of me.

I will get some medicine to make me sleep during the surgery.



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When I wake up I will be in the recovery room.

My parents are happy to see me. My healthcare team is so proud of how brave I was.



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When the doctors say it is
okay, I will go home.

I am so proud of myself that I
was brave for my surgery.



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