

# Questions you may want to ask about your child's upcoming surgery



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**Here are some questions parents felt were the most important to ask a doctor before a child's surgery. We hope they help you.**

## **Questions about the surgery.**

1. Why is the surgery needed? Ask for as many details as you need.
2. How is it done? Ask for as many details as you need.
3. Is this surgery common?
4. What are the risks with the surgery and what do you do to decrease them?
5. How long will the surgery take?
6. Will you let us know if there were any complications from the surgery?

## **Questions about getting ready for the surgery.**

1. Will my child need to be in hospital before surgery?
2. What happens during this time?
3. If my child goes to the hospital from home on the day of the surgery, what do we do to prepare?
4. What time do we need to come to the hospital on the day of the surgery?

## **Questions about after the surgery.**

1. Will my child need to stay overnight after surgery? Where in the hospital will my child stay?
2. Are there any side effects from the anesthetic given during surgery?
3. Is there anything my child cannot drink, eat or do after the surgery and if so for how long?
4. What are normal reactions children have after the surgery?
5. What do we need to watch for after the surgery such as signs of infection?
6. At what point do we call with a worry or concern?
7. Who do we call if we have questions about our child's recovery?
8. When we go home, does my child need special care?
9. Will my child be in much pain after the surgery? If so, for how long? What can I do about it?
10. Who does my child see after the surgery and when?
11. How long does it usually take a child to recover after this type of surgery?