

After your child's surgery

After anaesthetic your child may feel drowsy or unwell for 24-48 hours. We advise you to arrange time off work to care for your child.

Please arrange for your transport home, either by private vehicle or taxi.

If your child is having a dental procedure, we advise you to have a second adult with you in the car on your way home.

Bus transport is not recommended as the bus cannot bring you back to the hospital quickly if your child becomes ill.

If you live more than one hour drive from the hospital or more than 30 minutes from medical assistance please arrange to stay in Townsville overnight.

Before leaving hospital you will receive post-procedure information.

Travel assistance

If you are eligible for patient travel assistance, please ensure you have the required forms from your nearest hospital/health service before your admission.

From time to time elective surgery can be postponed. This may happen at any time, including the day of your procedure. If your surgery is affected you will be contacted by a bookings officer and your procedure rescheduled.

Important information for tonsillectomy surgery patients

If your child is having tonsillectomy surgery and lives outside the Townsville area, you will need to make arrangements to stay in Townsville for two weeks after your surgery.

Contact details

If you have any questions or concerns please call the elective surgery bookings office between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday:

Phone: (07) 4433 2800

Townsville University Hospital
PO Box 670, Townsville QLD 4810
Ph: (07) 4433 1111

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This patient information brochure supports National Safety and Quality Health Service Standard 2 - Partnering with Consumers



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Day surgery and your child

Information for parents and carers



Queensland
Government

Before your child's surgery

Admission

Please present to the central admissions desk on the ground floor of Townsville University Hospital. You will then be directed to the Planned Procedure Unit (PPU) on the second floor.

Please be aware that your admission time does not relate to your theatre time. Please be prepared to be here all day.

Food intake

Fasting and medication instructions will be advised at your child's pre-admission clinic.

Failure to follow these instructions may result in the surgery being cancelled because of concerns for your child's safety.

If your child is bottle fed, please bring a prepared bottle for feeding after their procedure.

If you need further information please phone the pre-admission clinic on (07) 4433 2771.

Illness

If your child develops a cold, flu or any other illness, please contact the elective surgery bookings office on (07) 4433 2800 between 9am and 4pm, Monday to Friday, 24-48 hours before admission.

Hygiene

Please ensure your child is bathed the night before and the morning of their operation. They should dress in clean and comfortable clothing. Please remove any piercings, jewellery and nail polish before coming to hospital.

Medications

Your child should be given their usual medication before coming to hospital, unless otherwise advised by the doctor. Please bring them with you in their original packaging.

Personal belongings

A locker is provided for personal belongings. You are encouraged to bring some form of comforter or toy for your child to take to theatre.

We recommend you bring some books or other quiet activities to distract your child, as there is sometimes a long wait before transfer to the operating theatre.

Townsville University Hospital will not accept responsibility for the loss of money or any other valuables during your time in the hospital. Please leave valuables at home.

Parents/guardians

While your child is a patient in PPU, one parent must remain in the unit. This helps your child to feel secure in their surroundings.

We ask that you do not bring other children with you. There are no child-minding facilities available in the unit.

Visitors

Due to limited space and the need to protect other patients' privacy, patients are requested to bring only one support person.

Bed arrangements

Please note that beds are allocated according to procedure and need. A bed is not allocated at the time of admission.

Private patients

When attending PPU as a private patient, arrangements for payment are to be made with the cashiers office on the ground floor of the main hospital building.