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.

Townsville Hospital and Health Service

Smoking

Please note that Townsville University Hospital is a smoke-free campus.

Important information for tonsillectomy surgery patients

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

Personal belongings

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



Contact details

General enquiries

If you have any questions or concerns please call the elective surgery bookings office on (07) 4433 2800 OR surgical preadmission clinic on (07) 4433 2771 between 9am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.



For more information on Paediatric Fasting Guidelines, please scan the QR code.

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

Published by Townsville Hospital and Health Service www.townsville.health.qld.gov.au



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



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Fasting and medication information for children

Information for parents and carers

Present to central admissions at the main entrance of Townsville University Hospital

on at





Before your child's surgery

To provide the safest care, it is very important that patients undergoing surgery are appropriately prepared.

Failure to follow the instructions below may result in the surgery being cancelled for your child's safety.

Illness

If your child develops a cold, flu or other illness, please call the elective surgery bookings office on (07) 4433 2800, 24-48 hours before admission.

Fasting Instructions

Clear fluids can be continued until advised to stop by nursing staff on the day of surgery. This will be one hour before surgery.

You will receive a telephone call with fasting instructions for solids and milk one day before surgery.

Elective surgery and fasting guideline

Diabetic patients will have special requirements, which should be discussed with your child's anaesthetist prior to surgery.

Children under 6 months of age

- Plan for the last breastfeed to finish no later than 3 hours before scheduled surgery
- Plan for a formula feed to finish no later than 4 hours before scheduled surgery
- Plan for any solid food to finish no later than 6 hours before scheduled surgery
- Please offer clear fluids up to 1 hour before surgery.

Children over 6 months of age

- Do not give milk drinks, food, lollies or chewing gum for 6 hours before surgery
- Please offer clear fluids up to 1 hour before surgery.

Definitions of clear fluids

- Clear fluids are transparent when held up to the light
- They include water, cordial and clear apple juice
- They must not include pulp, milk-based products or jelly.

Oral medication

Please continue regular medications unless otherwise requested by your child's anaesthetist.

Stop all over the counter supplement medications one week before surgery.

Hygiene

Please ensure your child has showered before arriving at the hospital. Particular attention should be paid to their armpits, groin, belly button and the area being operated on.

Remove any nail polish and false fingernails, including, acrylic and gel nails.

Jewellery and body piercing

Please remove all jewellery and body piercings before surgery.

