

Tips for Parents by Parents

Navigating the Pediatric Procedure & Sedation Unit

When will we find out when to arrive at the hospital for the procedure?

You will get a phone call between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. the weekday before the procedure to find out when to arrive at the hospital. (Note: If your procedure is on Monday, you will get a phone call Friday evening.) If you do not get a phone call, please call (212) 746-5111.

How long will we have to wait before the procedure?

All of our patients are told to come to the hospital with enough time before their scheduled procedure to complete the pre-admission process. This time can vary depending on the physician and the type of surgery/procedure. You will be notified of your arrival time the day before your surgery. Please keep in mind that there may be emergencies. This might cause your procedure to be delayed. At other times, procedures may be ahead of schedule and you may be called to come in earlier than your scheduled time.

Can I go into the procedure room with my child?

One parent will accompany each child into the Operating Room. The parent will stay in the room until the child is asleep. Once sleeping, parents are asked to step out and escorted to the Family Waiting Room. Due to the amount of hospital staff in the procedure room, only one parent can go into the room with the child.

How long will the procedure take?

Every procedure will take a different amount of time. The day of your procedure, you may ask the nurse how long the procedure will take. Keep in mind that this is an estimated time and it may be shorter or longer than the time given.

Can we talk to the doctor before the procedure starts?

You will be able to see your doctor in the procedure room. If you would like to speak to your doctor before the procedure, please let your nurse know during the pre-admission process.

Where do we go after the procedure room?

Parents and families wait in the Family Waiting Lounge (located down the hall from P-937) after their child goes to the procedure room. Coffee, Tea and other small snacks are in the Family Waiting Lounge. Families will be informed when their child is ready for the

Recovery Room. Two people may stay with each patient in the Recovery Room.

How long does the recovery take?

Recovery times vary drastically based on the type of procedure the child has had. Recovery can range from 30 minutes to 4 hours (or longer).

Can we use cell phones in the waiting room?

Yes, cell phones can be used in the waiting room.

Where can I park if I drive to the hospital?

Recommended Garage: 68th Street parking garage (main entrance)

Alternate Garage: 70th Street parking garage (next to the Helmsley Tower)

Is there a place to store things we bring with us?

We provide our patients with lockers to keep anything during their stay.

Do you have computers for use?

We do have computers with Internet access, but not printers. Our patients can use these computers first. Family members may use these computers as long as none of our patients want to use them.

Tips and suggestions for families:

- Bring your child's favorite comfort item with you. Also, bring any special cups or snacks that your child might want to have in the Recovery Room.
- It is helpful to let your child play with a toy medical kit at home before and after the procedure to help them learn about their procedure.
- Write down all of your questions before coming to the hospital so you do not forget to ask anything.
- Be sure to call your doctor's private office to make a follow-up appointment.
- We do NOT allow any food or drink in our waiting room.
- If you leave the Family Waiting Lounge during the procedure, leave your cell phone number with a staff member in order for us to contact you if we need to.

ABOUT THE FAC: The Komansky Center Family Advisory Council (FAC) is a group of dedicated parents and family members of pediatric patients who are committed to working with the Hospital staff and pediatric administration to provide family-centered care to all of the pediatric patients. If you would like to find out more about the Family Advisory Council, please call us at (212)746-6007.