What happens after your child’s general anaesthetic

Information for parents
What happens after your child’s general anaesthetic

Once your child is awake from the anaesthetic they can start drinking, and if they are not sick, they can start eating their normal diet.

The minimum recovery time before discharge is 2 hours.

Your child cannot go home by public transport after a general anaesthetic.

The anaesthetic may make your child feel slightly more tired than usual for a day or two. He/she should be encouraged to go to bed earlier and perhaps have a rest during the day.

Sometimes the anaesthetic can leave your child feeling sick for the first 24 hours, or your child may vomit. This is fairly common but if it continues for longer than 24 hours, please telephone the ward. The best treatment for this is rest, small, frequent amounts of fluid, and small portions of light food (for example, toast, biscuits). If the vomiting continues to persist, please contact your GP.

The hospital experience is strange and unsettling for some children, so do not be surprised at changes in behaviour when you get home – for example, your child may be more clingy, easily upset or have disturbed sleep. Try to be patient, understanding and give your child a bit more time.
## Contact telephone numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Day Care Ward</td>
<td>(01865) 234148 / 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom’s Ward</td>
<td>(01865) 234108 / 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin’s Ward</td>
<td>(01865) 231254 / 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drayson Ward</td>
<td>(01865) 231237 / 234049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JR Hospital Switchboard</td>
<td>(01865) 741166</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns

## Further information

You may find the following website useful:

The Royal College of Anaesthetists website www.rcoa.ac.uk
If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call 01865 221473 or email PALSJR@orh.nhs.uk

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Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust
Oxford OX3 9DU
www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/patientinformation

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