

CHOC Children's Discharge Questions Worksheet

The questions below are helpful in providing caregivers an idea of the types of things they need to consider when caring for a child after surgery. At the time of discharge, the patient's nurse will go over all of the important information pertaining to the child's at-home care and necessary follow-up care. Most, if not all, of these questions will be answered at that time.

Should caregivers want to get answers to some of these questions in advance, they can discuss them with the patient's surgeon at the child's last appointment prior to the procedure.

What are the warning signs that we should contact a nurse or doctor after surgery?

How long should the child stay in bed after surgery? How often should I get my child out of bed to move around?

How frequently should my child be urinating?

How soon before the child can resume his or her normal activities like school, sports, daycare, etc.?

What are special instructions regarding care of the surgical site?

How long might the child be in pain?

What medications can I give the child for pain? How much and how often?

Do I need special equipment, bandages, supplies or medications for the child after surgery? If so, where can these items be purchased or rented? How long will the child need these items?

When should we schedule a follow-up visit after surgery?
