

Cardiac Surgery

Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children



I am having surgery on my heart.

I may have different feelings about this.
That's ok!

This story will help teach me about my
surgery.





When I arrive at the hospital I will ride the elevators to the 4th floor.



On the 4th floor my family and I will check in at the desk.



I will wait calmly in the waiting room until my name is called.



When my name is called, my family and I will walk with the nurse to get my weight.

I will stand on a scale to see how much I weigh.



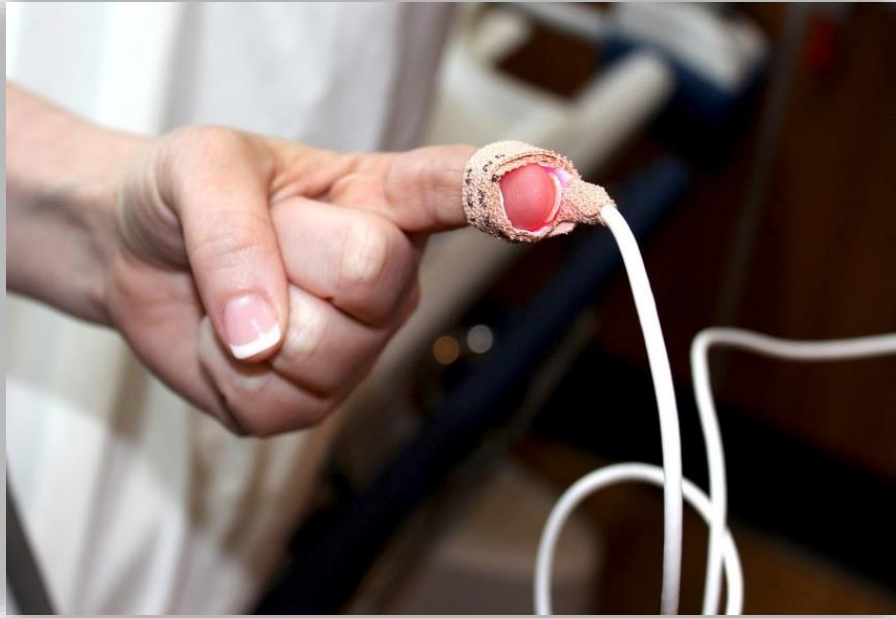
My nurse will put a blood pressure cuff on my arm.

This will feel like a hug on my arm.

I will keep my arm still.



My family and I will follow the nurse to a room with a bed and TV.



My nurse will put a sticker like this on my finger.
This will check how well I am breathing.
I will hear a beeping noise.



My nurse will take my temperature.
The thermometer will touch my head.



While I am in this room I will put on my hospital gown.

The hospital gown may feel different than my clothes.
Wearing my gown helps the doctors take better care of my body.



Before my surgery I may need to have my blood drawn.

I can learn more about getting my blood drawn in the [Lab Social Story](#).



When it is time for my surgery, a nurse will read my bracelet.



I will ride on a bed with wheels.

The surgery room has a different bed and special equipment.



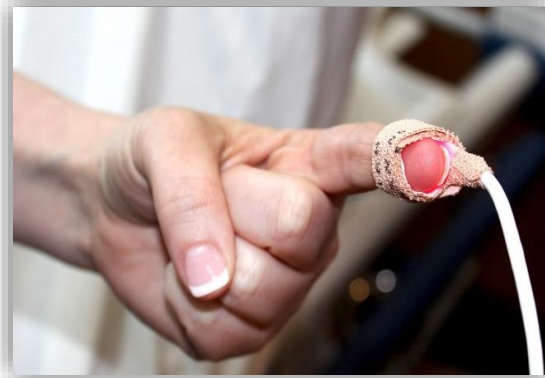
A nurse will help me move to the bed.

They will bring me a blanket so I can stay warm.

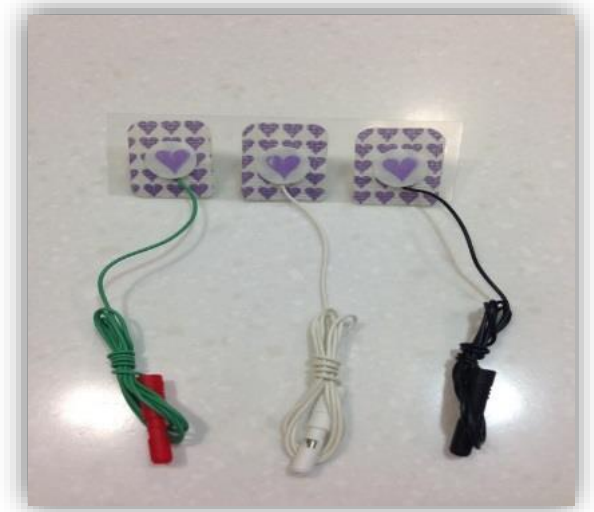
My nurse will...



Put a blood pressure cuff on my arm.



Put a sticker that looks like this on my finger.



The nurse will put two special stickers on my back, and one sticker on my side.



When it is time for my surgery I will wear a special mask.

The mask will help me fall asleep.

My job is to take deep breaths.

CVICU (Cardiac Intensive Care Unit)

After my surgery, I will wake up in a room like this.

My family will be with me.

I may notice a few new things on my body.

These things will help my body get better after my surgery.



This social story has been developed as a resource for families, clinical practitioners and trainees at The Children's Hospital of Alabama by the Sensory Task Force. Effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this story, but it is the user's responsibility to evaluate the appropriateness of this information for each clinical situation (1st ed. 2018)