

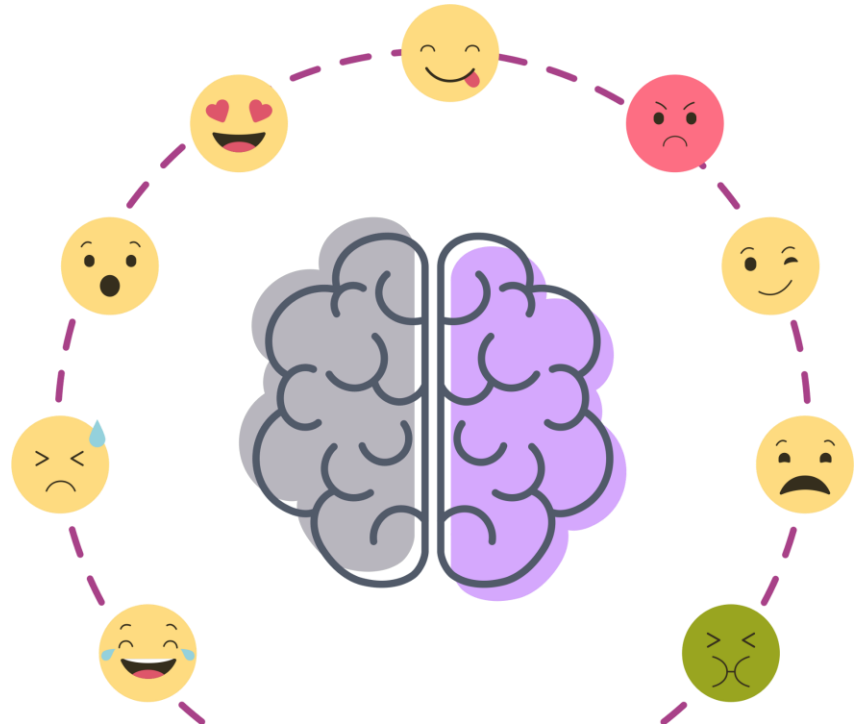
# **Children's of Alabama Emergency Department Behavioral Health Visit**





I am going to the Emergency Department at Children's of Alabama.

This story will help me learn more about my visit.



There are many reasons why someone may go to the Emergency Room.

I am here to get extra help with thoughts and emotions I have that may be hard for me to deal with on my own.

When my family and I arrive to the Emergency Room, we will walk through a metal detector like this.

Nothing will touch me.

I may hear a beeping noise when I walk through.







Next, we will check in at the desk.



I will get a bracelet with my name.

I will wear this bracelet on my wrist.



My family and I will go to a room to check my weight and vital signs.

Vital signs help the nurses and doctors learn more about my body.

It does not hurt to have my vital signs checked.



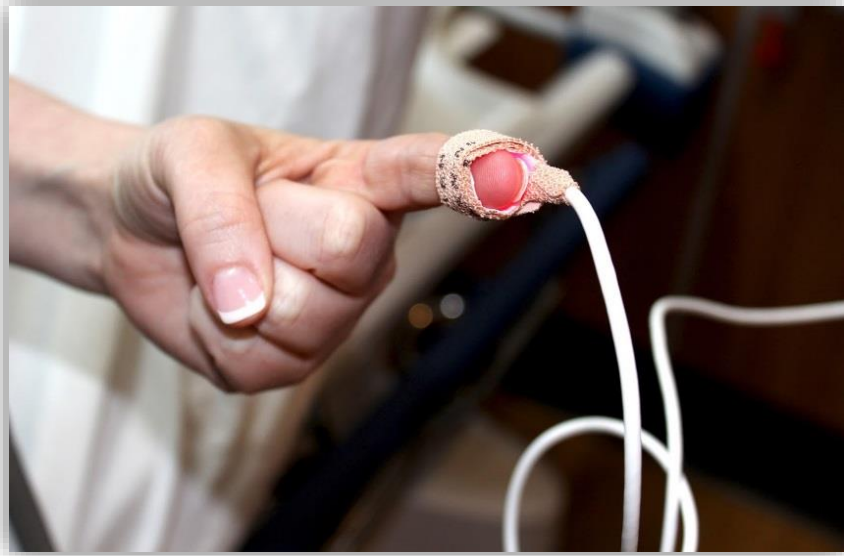
I will stand still on a scale to check my weight.



I will hold my arm still for my blood pressure.

This may feel like a tight hug on my arm.





I will hold my finger out to check how well I am breathing and how fast my heart is beating.

I may hear a beeping noise.



The nurse will place a thermometer under my tongue to check my temperature.

This tells the nurse how warm my body is.



My family and I will walk down the hall to a desk.

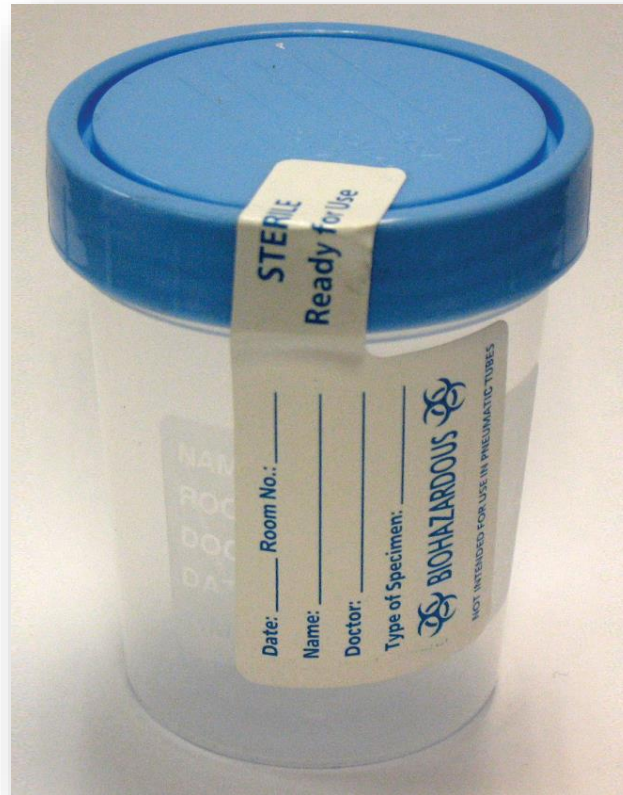
The person at the desk will tell us our room number.

A staff member will walk with us to our room.



When my family and I arrive to the room, I will meet a new nurse.

This nurse will help take care of me during my visit.



My nurse will give me a cup that looks like this.

My job is to go to the bathroom and pee in this cup.

My pee will help my doctor learn more about the inside of my body.





I will change into paper scrubs like this while I am in the Emergency Room.



After I change, a security guard or staff member will use a wand that looks like this to check my body for anything that could be unsafe for me or others around me.

This wand will not touch me.



My clothes and belongings will be kept safe in a locker until it is time for me to leave.

There are many different rooms in the Emergency Room.

Some rooms have silver doors.

These doors make a loud noise when they are lifted up or pulled down.



One door has medical equipment behind it.

This door will stay closed unless my body needs medical equipment to feel better.



The other door has a TV behind it.

I can use my TV after I have been open and honest about questions I am asked.



A staff member will be with me at all times to keep me safe and company.

I may have different people sit with me at different times.





I will meet many different people.

All of these people have different jobs and are here to help me.



Staff will make sure I have things that I need like food and items to keep myself clean.

I can also ask for activities!





I will be asked different questions about myself.

My job is to answer questions honestly and share my feelings.





Once I talk to the different people taking care of me, my doctor will decide the best way to help strengthen my mind and manage my emotions .

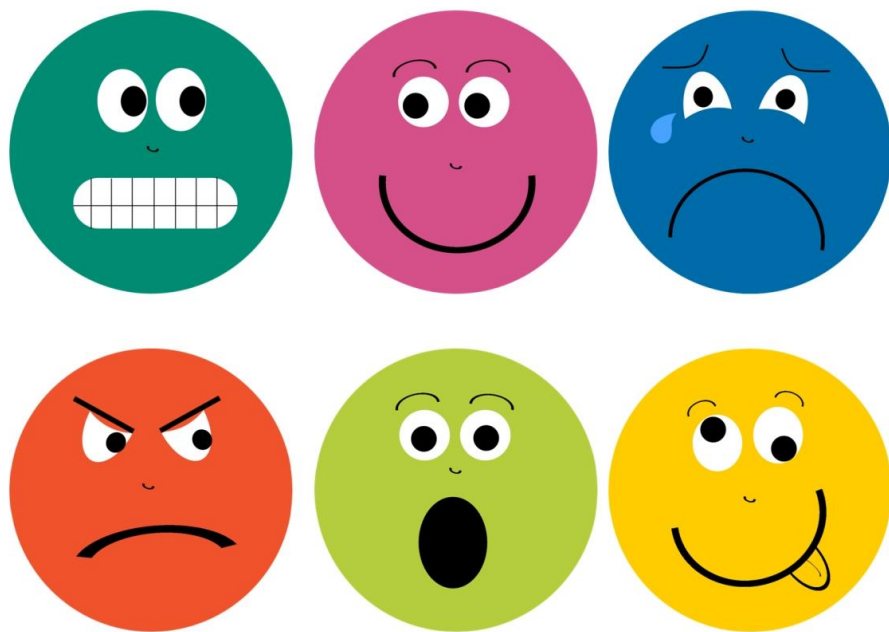
To help me, my doctor may decide I need to stay at this hospital or a different hospital.



If I stay at this hospital I will take a wheelchair upstairs.



If I go to a different hospital I will ride in an ambulance.



I may have different feelings during my visit to the Emergency Room, that's ok!

Everyone is here to take care of me.

I will be safe.



If I have any questions about what is going to happen I can ask anyone taking care of me.



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)