

Yorkshire Regional Centre for
Paediatric & Adolescent Oncology and Haematology

Paediatric, teenage and young adult Anaesthetic List

Information for children,
young adults and
parents/carers



Leeds children's
hospital

caring about children

Anaesthetic list:

You/your child may require a lumbar puncture or bone marrow test during treatment. This may be performed under general anaesthetic to minimise upset. There are two main types of anaesthetic:

1. Anaesthetic liquid can be inserted into a cannula or portacath/Hickman line (magic milk).
2. Anaesthetic gas can be breathed in through a mask (magic air).
3. Local anaesthetic may also be offered as an alternative, where you/they will be awake but the area will be numbed. The benefits of local anaesthetic will be discussed with you.



Who gives anaesthetics?

Anaesthetics are performed by doctors with special training. They will ask questions about you/your child's health and adapt their anaesthetic to meet their needs. Sometimes, it may be necessary to postpone a procedure due to the child/young person being too unwell.

Occasionally, it will be necessary to proceed even when the child or young person is unwell because they need their investigation or treatment.



What can go wrong?

Minor complications of anaesthesia may include pain on injection, a feeling of sickness and sore throat. Rarely, (less than 1 in 20,000 cases), bad reactions to anaesthetics may occur. Anaesthetists are trained to respond to these events but in extreme circumstances, serious life-changing and life-threatening complications can occur.

Fasting Instructions before the procedure:

Afternoon list (Monday):

- 7.30 am is the latest your child can have any food and most drinks - this includes milk, formula milk feed, fizzy drinks, fruit juice, sweets and chewing gum.
- 9.30 am is the latest that breast milk can be given.
- 12.30 pm is the latest your child can have water or clear diluted squash, please give them a drink at this time.

Morning list (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday):

- 2.30 am is the latest your child can have any food and most drinks - this includes milk, formula milk feed, fizzy drinks, fruit juice, sweets and chewing gum.
- 4.30 am is the latest that breast milk can be given.
- 7.30 am is the latest your child can have water or clear diluted squash, please give them a drink at this time.

It is good for you/your child to drink until 1 hour before the anaesthetic; however, if you/your child has something to eat or drink after these times, you must inform a member of nursing staff immediately.

Before the procedure

You/your child will need to be reviewed by a doctor or a nurse before the procedure. Please arrive promptly for your appointment to avoid delays to the list. Please make sure you book in with reception on arrival.

If you/your child has been unwell, please inform a member of staff as they will need to be assessed to see if they are fit for the anaesthetic.

You/your child may need a blood test before the list. This may be a thumb prick or from their central line and we will have to wait for the result to come back before you/your child can go to theatre.

If you/your child is due chemotherapy on the same day, this will be done following the procedure. The chemotherapy will not arrive until after the procedure so there may be a slight wait.

Going to the procedure room

Both parents/carers may accompany your child to the waiting room but only one parent/carer will be allowed in the anaesthetic room until they are asleep. If they have a favourite toy or comforter, they can take this with them.

Parents can then go off to the Unit or wait in the waiting area. It is important that you wait to be called into the recovery area so the nurse is able to concentrate on caring for your child.

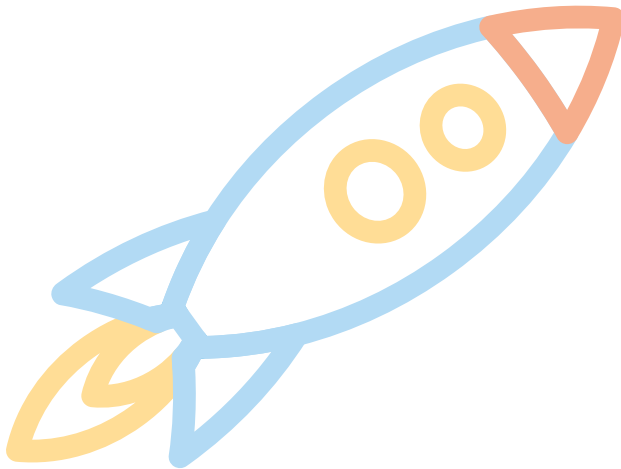
After the procedure

Your child's/your observations will be checked and you/your child will be monitored, whilst in recovery. Patients are required to stay on the ward for 1 hour post-procedure, preferably lying flat. All patients need to have something to eat and drink before being allowed home. The Unit will provide something to eat; however, you are welcome to bring along some food if you prefer.

When at home

Once you are home, try to let your child/yourself have a quiet evening with plenty to eat and drink.

If your child/you are sore, you can give them/have some pain relief. Please speak to the nursing staff if you have any questions about pain relief. Please remove any plasters/dressings within 24 hours of the procedure.



Contact details

Please contact the Day Unit or wards if any of the following occur, once you are at home:

- has a high or low temperature (38°C or above/or under 35.5°C);
- persistent vomiting and unable to keep anything down;
- persistent headaches or dizziness; and
- any oozing or bleeding from lumbar puncture or bone marrow sites.

If you have any other concerns, don't hesitate to contact us in:

Day Unit

Tel: **0113 3927379**

(Monday to Friday, 8.00 am - 6.00 pm)

OUTSIDE OF THESE HOURS

Ward 31

Tel: **0113 3927431**


Ward 32

Tel: **0113 3927432**

Ward 33

Tel: **0113 3927433**





What did you think
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