Parent/Guardian of: ____________________________________________

Surgery Date: _________________________________________________

Post Op Appt: ________________________________________________

Instructions:

• The day before surgery after 3:30pm, you must call the South Clinical Campus OR at (518) 262-1400 to find out the procedure and arrival time for surgery.
• If surgery is scheduled on a Monday, you may contact the OR on the Friday prior to surgery.
• A few days before surgery, a nurse will call to answer any preoperative concerns you may have and to construct a general health history on your child. If you do not receive a phone call prior to surgery you MUST call our office at (518) 262-5831.

Contact Numbers:

• If your phone number changes prior to the surgery date or you find there is a better number for the OR to reach you at, please call prior to surgery with the new information.
• It is imperative that there be a working phone number to reach parents/guardians for surgery. Failing to provide a working phone number may result in a postponement of surgery.

Insurance:

• Our office will contact your insurance company for proper authorization prior to surgery, if necessary.
• If the insurance changes or terminates prior to surgery, please call our office with the new insurance information. Failing to do so will result in surgery being cancelled or the patient’s guarantor being responsible for the full payment of the bill.

Cancellations:

• We make every possible effort to accommodate our patients. However, situations may arise where your child’s surgery may need to be delayed, moved up, or postponed to another day due to an emergency. We ask for your understanding in advance.
Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Department of Anesthesiology welcomes you and your child to The Children’s Hospital at Albany Medical Center. For your convenience, your anesthesiologist will carefully evaluate healthy children on the day of surgery. If your child has a more complicated medical history, your surgeon will contact the anesthesia department and they will call you prior to your child’s surgery. At that time we will discuss the anesthetic care for your child. We know the thought of upcoming surgery can cause a lot of anxiety for both parents and children so we will do everything possible to make the experience as safe and positive as we can.

It is VERY important for your child’s safety that he/she has an empty stomach at the start of anesthesia and surgery. Below are some important guidelines for withholding food and drink:

1. **NO SOLID FOOD OR FORMULA/MILK FOR 6 HOURS PRIOR TO SURGERY.** GUM, COUGH DROPS OR OTHER HARD CANDY ARE CONSIDERED TO BE “SOLID FOOD”.

2. **CLEAR LIQUIDS (APPLE JUICE, GINGERALE, 7-UP, OR WATER) ARE ALLOWED UP TO 2 HOURS BEFORE SURGERY.** (NOTE: ORANGE JUICE IS NOT A CLEAR LIQUID AND IS NOT ALLOWED.)

3. **BREAST FED INFANTS MAY BE FED BREAST MILK UP UNTIL 4 HOURS PRIOR TO SURGERY.**

IF THE ABOVE GUIDELINES ARE NOT FOLLOWED, YOUR CHILD’S SURGERY MAY BE CANCELLED OR DELAYED.

Some other helpful hints:

1. Please do not bring any other children with you on the day of surgery as this may impair your ability to care for your child having the surgery.
2. If your child desires, we would love to have them bring a favorite blanket or toy.
3. Tell us if your child sucks his/her thumb (for location of IV catheter).
4. When you meet your anesthesiologist they may decide to give your child a sedative medicine to drink. Also, if we feel it will benefit your child, we may allow one parent or guardian to come into the operating room for the start of the anesthesia. This will be discussed on the day of surgery.
5. As soon as possible, we will allow up to two adults in the post anesthesia care unit after the surgery is finished.
6. Please provide your surgeon with a current phone number.

We hope to make your experience with us as pleasant as possible!

Melissa A. Ehlers, M.D.
Director of Pediatric Anesthesia
Directions to South Clinical Campus; 25 Hackett Blvd Albany, NY 12208

**From I-787:** Take 787 South to the end. Proceed through the traffic light onto Hoffman Ave. Continue to Second Ave. and turn left. Then take your first right onto Hurlbut St. [There will be a Hospital (H) sign]. Follow to Delaware Ave (H sign), turn right, staying in the left lane. At the McDonalds, turn left onto Hackett Blvd. South Clinical Campus is on the right at the first traffic light.

**From the NYS Thruway:** Take the NYS Thruway (I-87) to Exit 23. Immediately after the toll booths, take first exit for Route 9W, turn left onto 9W North. At the third traffic light, turn right onto Hoffman and follow the directions above once on Hoffman.

**From I-90:** Take I-90 to Exit 4. Follow Route 85 (Slingerlands Bypass) South to Krumkill Rd. and exit onto Krumkill. At the stop sign at the top of the ramp, turn left onto Krumkill (then slight right at light) and follow to the end. Turn left onto New Scotland Ave. Turn right onto Manning Blvd and take until 2nd traffic light. Turn left onto Hackett Blvd here, and go approximately 1.5 miles to where you’ll reach South Clinical Campus on your left, just past St. James Place.

**From I-87:** Take I-87 South to I-90 East. Follow as from I-90, above.

Free parking is available in the visitor’s parking lot in front of the building.

Lost? Call (518) 262.1200 for help getting to South Clinical Campus.