

Cleft and Craniofacial Center - University of Rochester, Golisano Children's Hospital

Cleft Palate Repair

Postoperative Patient Instructions

General

- For a week or two after surgery, do not worry about "spoiling" your child during extra holding and comforting.
- After surgery, your child will be sleepy for several hours. Your child will have an IV in place for giving fluids and pain medicines. It is common for children to have blood-tinged saliva for a day or two after surgery. If your child has any vomiting after the surgery this too may have blood in it, which is normal.

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anything hard in the mouth.

- Your child can use the same bottle and nipple as before surgery. Older children can use a cup with or without a lid, as long as the spout is very short and soft. If your child uses a sippy cup with a hard spout, it is safest to bring this to the office for the team to see and approve before hand. Do not use sports bottles, forks, or straws.
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Activity

- For 6 weeks after surgery it is important to ensure that all play is supervised so that no hard toys are at risk of damaging the repair. Only soft toys or cloth toys should be used.
- Generally, most children are ready to return to daycare about 2 weeks after surgery. If you have

- has a fever higher than 101.5°F degrees (taken under the arm);
 - has pain that doesn't get better after pain medicine is given;
 - is not drinking liquids or is vomiting;
 - has trouble breathing.
- If you have any questions or concerns, call the office at (585)-275-1000 and someone will assist you.