

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :



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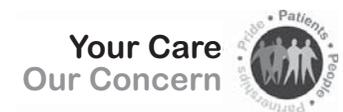
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Your General Anaesthetic



Your General Anaesthetic

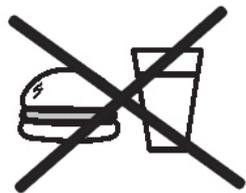


Because you are having an operation, you will need an anaesthetic.



A general anaesthetic makes you sleep during your operation so that you cannot feel anything or remember anything.

On the day of your operation



The hospital will tell you not to eat or drink before the operation.
No gum or sweets.
If you smoke, you should not smoke before your operation.
This will make your anaesthetic safer.

When you wake up



You will be taken to the recovery room where you will be looked after by recovery nurses.



They will make sure you are comfortable and give you medicines if you feel sick or have pain.



When they are happy you are comfortable, the ward nurse will come and collect you and take you back to the ward.

When you get to theatres



Theatre staff will stick pads on your chest, put a soft clip on your finger and take your blood pressure.



The doctor will then give you your medicine through your drip to make you sleepy.



Sometimes the doctor may make you sleep by breathing gas through a mask.

The doctor stays with you throughout your operation.



You will be seen by the anaesthetist (doctor). They are the doctors that will give you your anaesthetic and look after you while you are asleep.



Your doctor may ask you some questions to help them look after you during the operation.



When you come to hospital make sure you bring your medicines with you.



If you know of any medicine that makes you ill tell the doctor.



After the operation you may feel sore. The doctor will talk to you about the medicines they can give you to make you comfortable.



Your doctor may give you some medicine before the operation to help you relax.



For most anaesthetics you will need a drip put in your vein. To do this we use a needle to put a plastic tube into your vein.



You can have some cream put on your skin which numbs the area.

When it is your turn for your operation



If possible do not wear jewellery.

It will need to be removed or taped. The staff on the ward will help you with this.



A family member or friend can come with you.

A member of staff will come with you too.



You might go to theatre on a bed or trolley, or you might walk.