

Surgery for the Child with Diabetes

Before- and after-surgery care steps

In the week before surgery

- Test overnight basal rates on insulin pump or the Lantus/ Levemir dose.
- One night, several days before your scheduled surgery, have your child eat a dinner with a known carbohydrate count and low in fat and protein. Then, check blood sugars at:
 - Bedtime
 - Midnight
 - 3 a.m.
 - 6 a.m.
- If blood sugars do not remain stable overnight, contact the blood sugar line by phone at 206-987-5452 or email endonurse@seattlechildrens.org for help adjusting the doses prior to surgery.

To Learn More

- Endocrine Clinic
206-987-2640
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Night before and day of surgery

- Always give Lantus/ Levemir if your child is on injections, or keep the insulin pump running for the day of surgery.
- On the day of surgery, only give a correction if your child's blood sugar is greater than 250mg/dL, and **give just half the dose.**

After surgery

- Give bolus insulin 15 to 30 minutes after eating or drinking until your child can tolerate food and drink well or all nausea is gone.
- Do frequent blood sugar and ketone testing (every 2 to 3 hours).
- Ketones may appear due to the "stress" of the procedure.
- It is important to check for ketones even if the blood sugars are in goal range.
- Try to give small, frequent sips of liquids to prevent dehydration. Any type of liquid like water, juice or sports drink is fine after surgery.

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201.

This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

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