

Parental Presence at Induction (PPI) of Anesthesia

What is PPI?

Parental Presence during Induction of anesthesia (PPI) is to **help your child** experience less separation anxiety and stress during their transition to the Operating Room (OR).

PPI is when one parent or guardian goes with their child to the OR while the child breathes through a mask to go to sleep for their surgery. PPI is not necessary for all children going to the OR.

PPI will be used for children that are in the developmental stages where separation anxiety is the highest.

Who can participate in PPI?

- One parent or guardian with the approval of the anesthesiologist
- Children between the ages of one and twelve years

Our Goal:

Our goal at The Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center is to provide your child with the highest quality of safe patient care. During PPI, you must follow the instructions of the medical team at all times.

Kids have fears. *We remove them.*



When is PPI not allowed?

Certain circumstances do not allow for a parent to be present during induction of anesthesia. Not all parents will be going back to the OR. These situations include, but are not limited to:

- Children under one year of age or over twelve years of age
- Children undergoing emergency surgery
- Children that are heavily sedated from their pre-medication
- Children who are extremely ill
- Children who already have an IV (intravenous access)

If the anesthesiologist approves PPI, here are some parent/guardian tips and guidelines for a positive experience:

- The role of the parent or guardian during induction is to provide positive encouragement for your child during anesthesia. Some actions that will help your child include: holding their hand, singing or talking quietly to them.
- It is extremely important to remain calm prior to and during induction of anesthesia. Because children pick up on anxiety from their parents, your worries and anxieties may increase your child's anxiety.
- You will be asked to put on a yellow gown and a blue cap prior to going to the OR to keep the room sterile.
- Your child may have physical responses to the anesthesia. Your anesthesia provider will explain what to expect during anesthesia.
- When your child is asleep, you will be asked to give your child a kiss and you are expected to leave the OR promptly. This is to ensure that the medical team can focus their attention on your child. Nursing will escort you back to the holding area.

Many factors contribute to the decision for PPI. Ultimately, the anesthesiologist will make the final decision based on what is safest for your child.

Let the staff know if you do not feel comfortable escorting your child to the OR.
It is okay to feel this way.
Your child will be safe and well cared for by the medical team.

The
Childrens
Hospital
at OU Medical Center

