

Your child's surgery

Egleston hospital



Children'sSM
Healthcare of Atlanta

Your child is going to have surgery or a procedure at Egleston. Our hospital has:

- A team trained to care for children and teens
- Advanced medical equipment
- Child-friendly waiting areas

Before the surgery

- You must fill out a pre-anesthesia health form. Do this online prior to surgery at choa.org/surgery or call **404-785-6712**.
- Most patients do not need to be seen before surgery. We will let you know if your child needs to visit the pre-op clinic.
- A staff member will call you one day before the surgery to confirm your arrival time. It's important to arrive when instructed so we can properly prepare for the surgery.
- Remove any jewelry or accessories made of metal from your child's hair. Any piercings, body jewelry, false eyelashes and acrylic nails will also need to be removed.
- Bathe your child the night before surgery with soap and water. Wash your child's hair with shampoo. Do not use any baby oil, moisturizers, lotions, body powder or makeup.
- Dress your child in clean clothes. This helps lower the risk of your child getting an infection during the surgery or procedure.
- Wash any comfort items, such as a blanket or stuffed toy, that may be coming along with your child to the hospital.
- Report any symptoms of sickness to the pre-surgery nurse.

Helpful tips

- Answer your child's questions. Be honest.
- Listen to your child. He may be scared. Let your child know that the surgery is to help him, not punish him.
- If you have concerns, talk to the doctor when your child is not there. Try to do this before the day of the surgery.
- We have limited space in our waiting room. Please make day care plans for siblings on the day of the surgery.
- Visit choa.org/surgery for more tips on preparing for surgery and a photo tour of our day surgery center at Egleston.

Anesthesia plan

- Anesthesia is medicine that lets a part of the body or all of the body go to sleep for a surgery. An anesthesiologist is a doctor who gives the sleep medicine to your child.
- An anesthesiologist who is trained to treat children will talk to you about caring for your child before your child goes into the operating room.

Eating and drinking rules

- A nurse will call the day before surgery and tell you what your child can drink and eat before surgery.
- Do not give anything by mouth to your child after the time you were given to stop eating and drinking, including gum, hard candy or a sip of water.

It is important to follow these rules. If you do not, it could put your child's health at risk. There can be life-threatening safety risks to undergoing anesthesia with food or drink in the stomach. Your child's surgery will be moved to another day if you do not follow these rules.

Going to the hospital for surgery

- You will be asked to arrive two to three hours before the scheduled surgery.
- A legal guardian has to sign both doctor and surgery center consent forms. Bring your guardianship papers or legal documents if you are the patient's guardian. Surgery cannot be done if these are not signed.
- Bring your insurance card, a photo ID and any paperwork from your child's doctor.
- Bring a list of medicines your child is taking and the dosage, including over-the-counter medicine, supplements or herbs.
- Bring any special or important equipment, such as a ventilator and any charging devices for the equipment.
- Bring a special item for your child, such as a favorite toy or blanket.
- Let your child make some choices, like what to wear and what to bring (for example, a sippy cup for after the surgery). This will help him feel more in control.
- It is important that you eat on the day of the surgery. This helps you be at your best for your child. Remember: Your child should not eat or drink.
- Smile. Breathe. Your child will be more relaxed if you are calm.
- Child life specialists can help if you or your child is feeling anxious.

During the surgery

One caregiver must remain at Egleston in a day surgery patient room or the third-floor waiting room during your child's surgery. This is for the safety of your child and ensures your child's doctor can find you if there are any questions.

Speak up

It is OK if you have questions or do not understand something about your child's surgery. We are here to help you. Do not be afraid to ask us questions or talk to us.

What to expect after surgery

- The nurses will check to make sure your child:
 - Is awake.
 - Is comfortable.
- If your child was given pain medicine, follow the pain medicine directions given to you by your child's surgeon.
- Have your child sip liquid or chew ice chips. He may feel sick to his stomach. This is normal.
- Your child may be grumpy or sad. This is also normal. Listen and tell him that you understand how he feels.

Going home

Your child can go home when he is awake and comfortable and your questions have been answered. Once your child is at home, call your surgeon with any further questions. Refer to the phone number on your discharge instructions.

Important phone numbers

Pre-surgery nurse 404-785-6712	Day surgery 404-785-6725
Pre-op clinic 404-785-6711	Insurance 404-785-5589
Spanish line 404-785-6707	Child life specialist 404-785-6325

(Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Calls received after 3 p.m. will be returned the next business day.)

Visit choa.org/surgery for more information.



404-785-6712

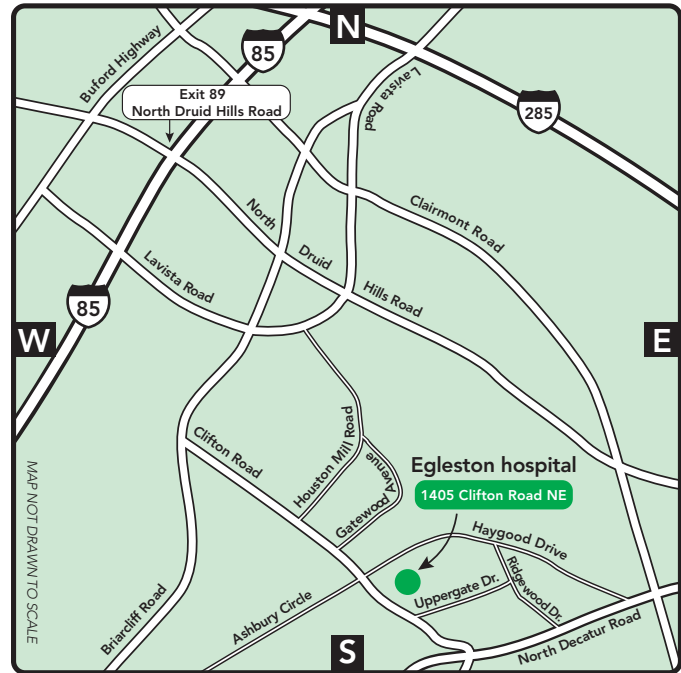


choa.org/surgery

* Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, ismarta.com

**Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association, cctma.com

Some physicians and affiliated healthcare professionals on the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta team are independent providers and are not our employees.



Directions

Take the Flower Elevators to day surgery on the third floor. Visit choa.org/locations for door-to-door maps and directions.

Egleston

1405 Clifton Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30322

Traveling on I-85 North

- Take Exit 89 for North Druid Hills Road
- Turn right onto North Druid Hills Road (0.4 mile)
- Turn right onto Briarcliff Road (1.7 miles)
- Turn left onto Clifton Road NE and pass the Emergency Department entrance (1.6 miles)
- Turn left onto Uppergate Drive (0.3 mile)
- Follow the signs to Visitor Parking

Traveling on I-85 South

- Take Exit 89 for North Druid Hills Road
- Turn left onto North Druid Hills Road (0.6 mile)
- Turn right onto Briarcliff Road (1.7 miles)
- Turn left onto Clifton Road NE and pass the Emergency Department entrance (1.6 miles)
- Turn left onto Uppergate Drive (0.3 mile)
- Follow the signs to Visitor Parking

MARTA rail* and CCTMA bus**

- From the MARTA Blue Line, exit the train at the Decatur Station
- Go down the stairs and follow the signs to Swanton Way
- Take the CCTMA bus to Egleston

MARTA bus*

- Bus 6 (Emory) stops in front of Emory University Hospital on Clifton Road NE, across from Egleston