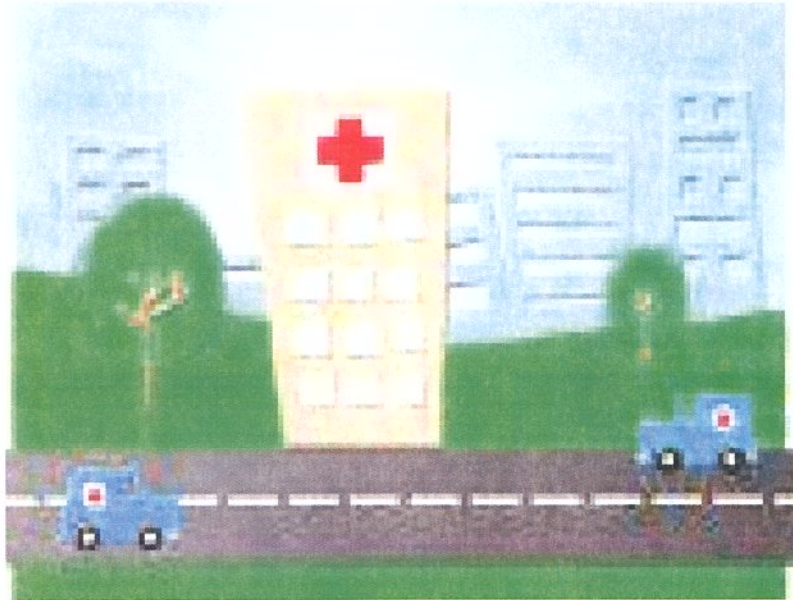


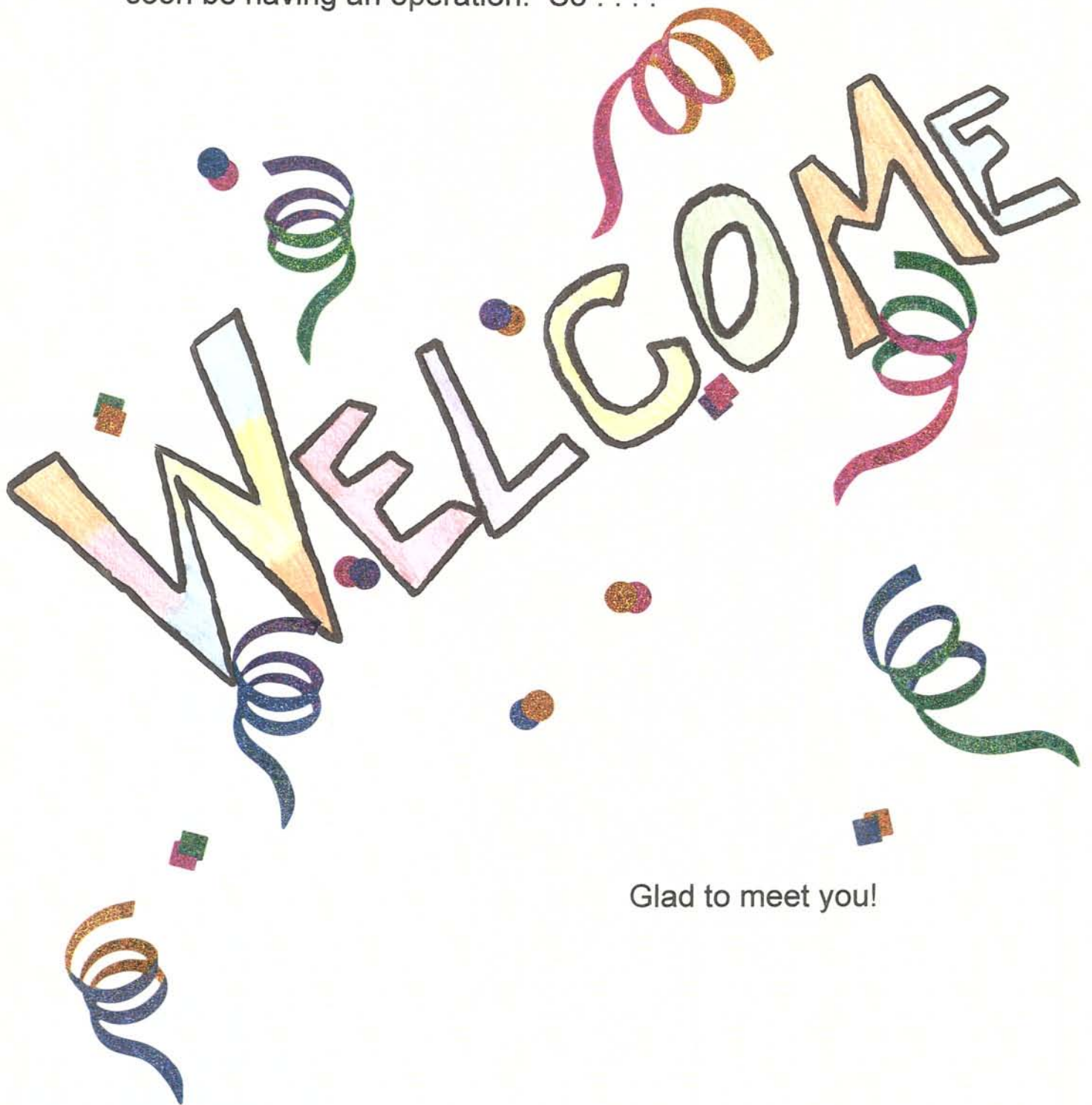
# **PEDIATRIC PREOPERATIVE INFORMATION BOOKLET**

**ROYAL UNIVERSITY  
HOSPITAL**

**JANUARY 2008**



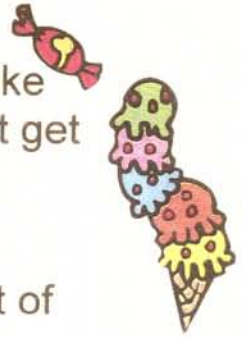
If you are looking at this book it means that you will soon be having an operation. So . . . .



Glad to meet you!

Strange things can be scary. If you understand what is going to happen next, it won't be so bad. This book will try to show you what might happen next.

On the day of your surgery you will not be able to eat or drink anything. That is no fun. You cannot sneak anything; you cannot even have something you don't like very much! Your stomach must be empty so you won't get as sick after the operation.



When you get to the hospital, you will meet a lot of people who will ask a lot of questions. You will have to change out of your nice clothes into pajamas and slippers. Once everything is ready, someone dressed in green pajamas will come to take you and your family to the operating room. Sometimes you get to walk; sometimes you get to ride in a wheelchair. Once in a while, you get to ride on a bed or a stretcher.



Don't forget, you can bring a special toy or blanket with you to the operating room. It will stay with you the whole time and go back upstairs with you when you are all finished.



This is the operating room.

YOU  
ARE  
HERE



When you get here you must wait and wait and wait some more. Your family can be with you here, and there are toys, books and even a TV to help the time pass more quickly.



While you are waiting more people will come to talk with you and your family. They will want to listen to your heart, look in your mouth and see your name bracelet. One of the doctors may even draw on you!

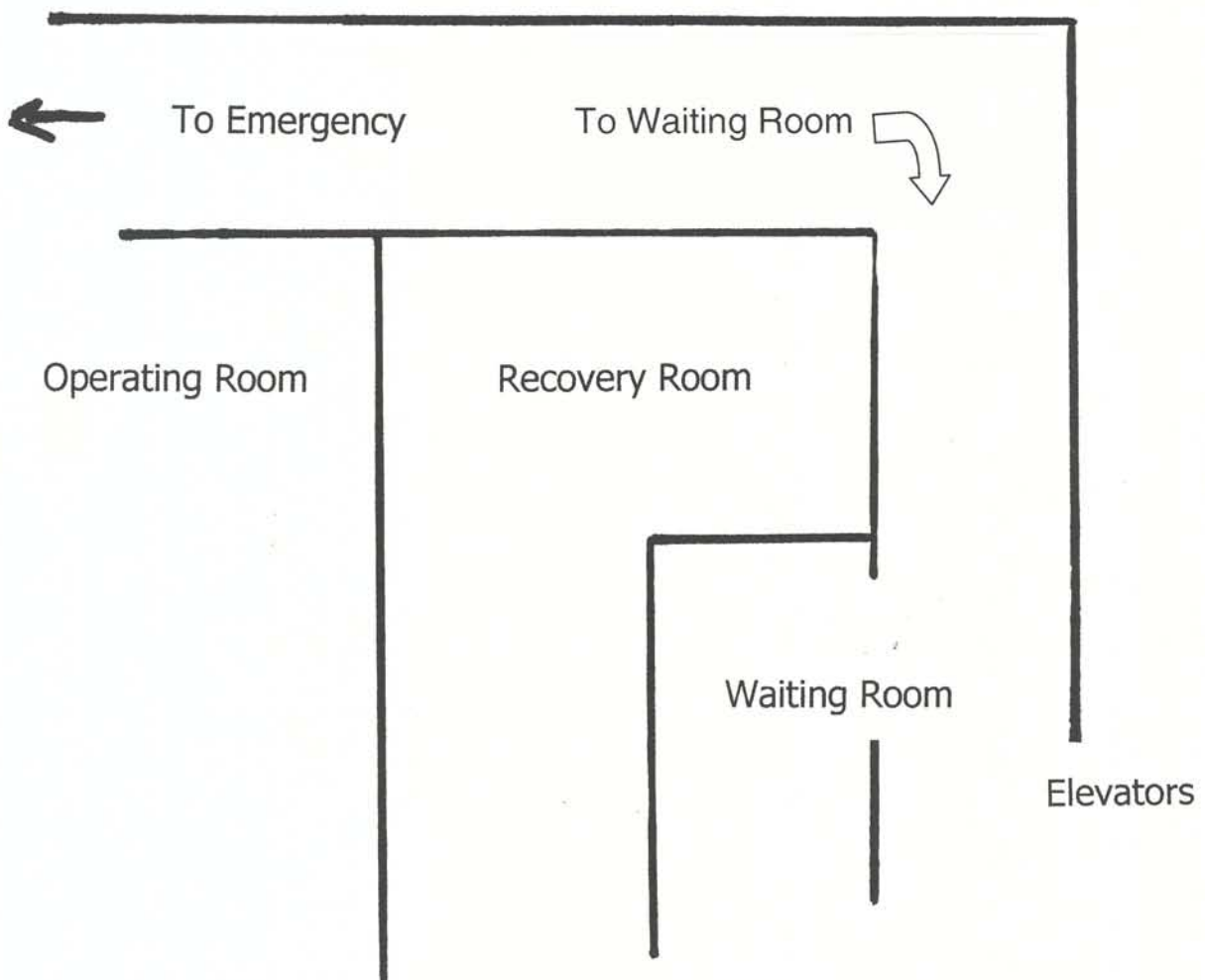


Our family must wait while you go off with the doctors and nurses. This is a picture of where they will be waiting.

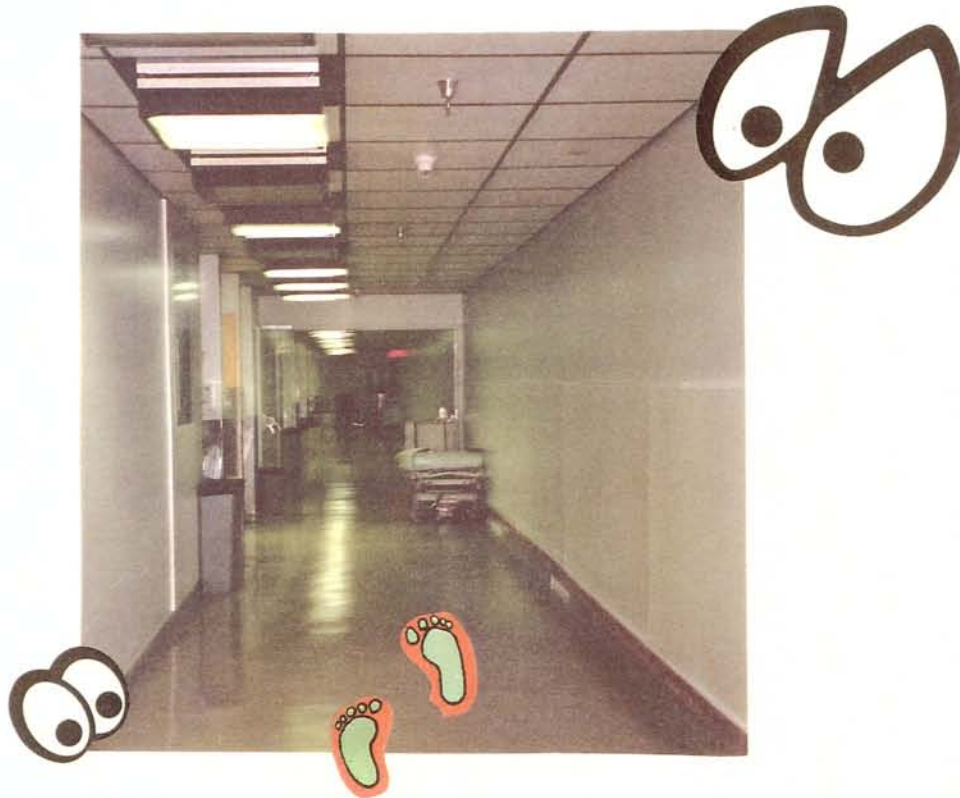


It won't be much fun waiting. You'll have to watch closely and tell them all about your adventure once you are together again.

Mom and dad, this is where you can wait; you can go for a walk or maybe get something to eat and drink. There is a TV, magazines and a phone. You likely won't be the only family waiting here. Try not to worry; we will take very good care of your child. The doctor will meet you here after he is finished, unless he has instructed you differently. Once your child has settled, the recovery room staff will notify you. One of you may be with your child until they are ready to return to the ward.



To get to the operating room you must go down a long hallway, it's not scary and you won't get lost.



In the operating room you will meet lots more people and see lots of strange things. You will be helped up onto a funny looking, skinny bed.



You will see a lot of odd things that the doctors and nurses need to help them take care of you. Here are some of them;



anesthetic machine



supply carts



← light

you can watch the picture that your heart makes on this TV



cautery machine

back table and equipment

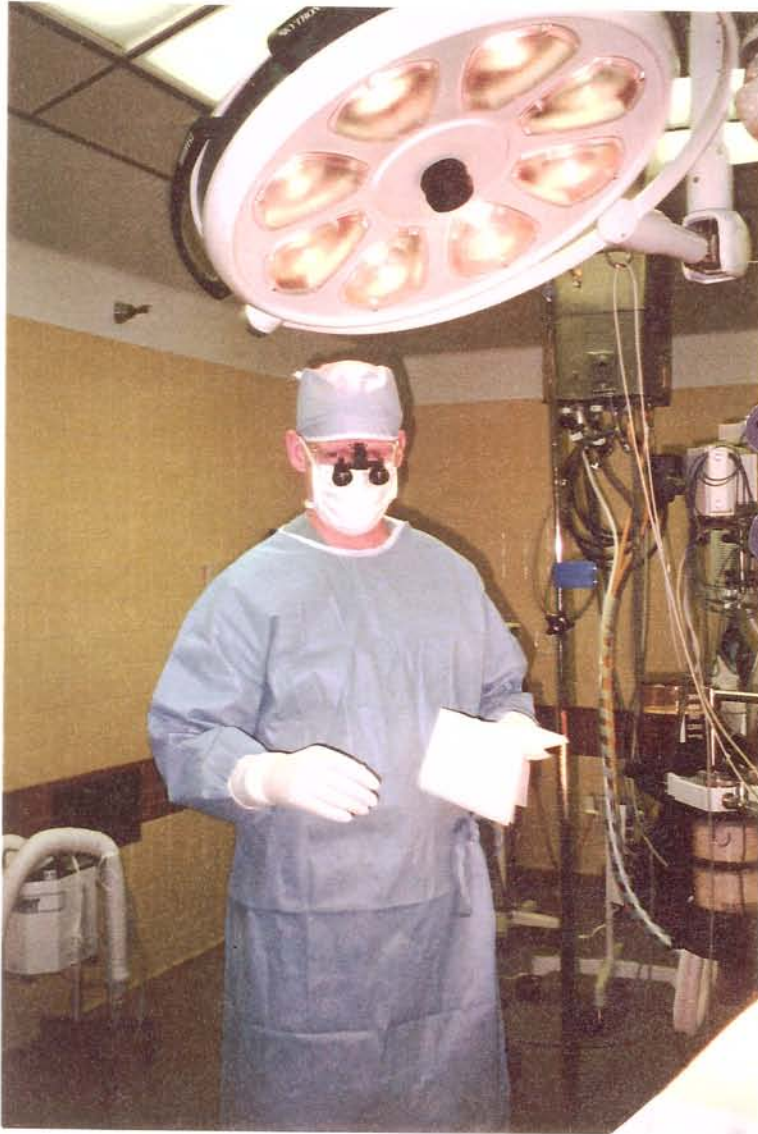


suction

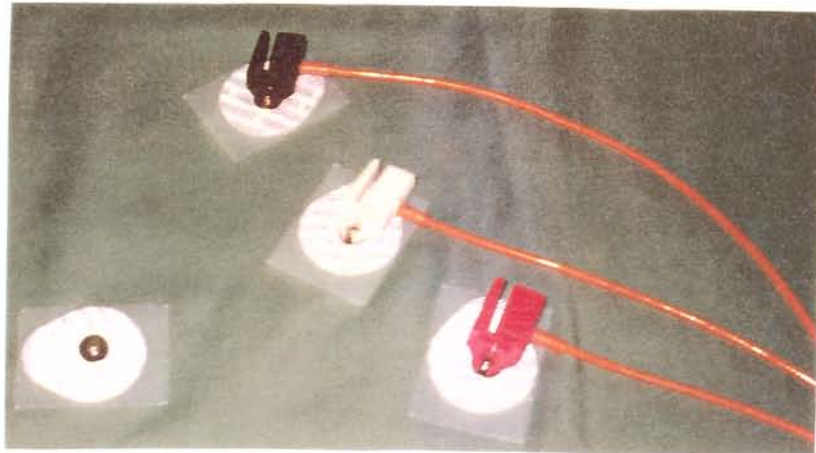


case cart

Even your doctor looks like an alien! He dresses like this and washes really well so that everything will be super clean for your operation. No bugs, no germs so that you won't get sick.



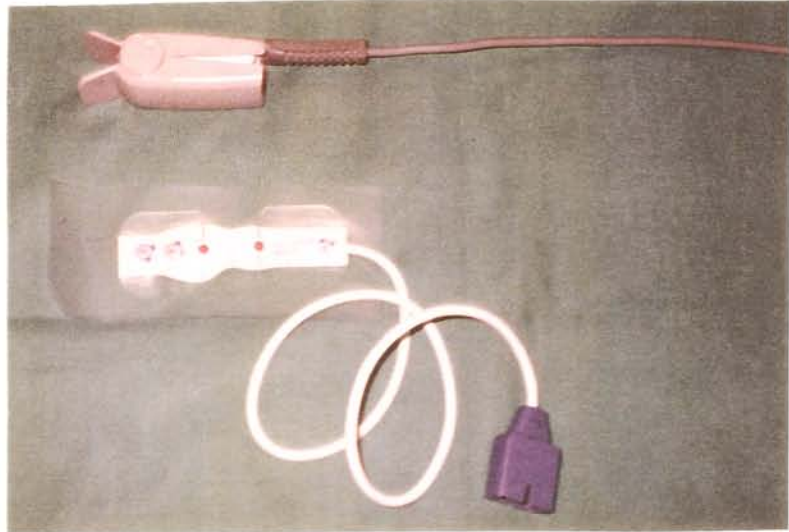
The doctors and nurses will put some stickies on your chest; they are used to watch your heart while you are asleep.



They will also put a pressure cuff on your arm; it squeezes like a tiny hug.



They will put a small clip or a stickie on your finger; this will tell the doctor how well you are breathing.



You don't have to worry about feeling like a porcupine; the doctor won't try to hurt you. He will put some medicine into a mask that you can breathe. The medicine usually smells like something familiar, can you guess what?



Once you are asleep you won't know or feel anything. When you wake up you will be in the recovery room and your operation will be done.

# SURPRISE!



There are special nurses in the 'wake-up' room; their only job is to look after you! You may wake-up to find you have a bandage on. You may feel tired or sore or even hungry, that is okay, tell the nurse, and she will help you. Someone from your family can stay with you until you feel well enough to go back up stairs.



We hope that your surgery will help you to get better, and that this book has answered some questions that you and your family might have wondered about. Now it won't be so scary when you come to see us.

