

It's OK to Ask

We would like you to be part of the team of healthcare professionals who ensure your child's safety while in hospital. Here are some tips on how you can do this:



Ask questions about your child's care

Raise any concerns you may have or ask the healthcare professional to check the notes and treatment plans before any treatment. **It's ok to ask** "Excuse me; I am worried that my child is getting worse, can you help please?"



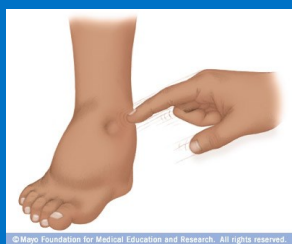
You know your child best

Let the healthcare professional know things about your child: what your child likes and dislikes, and what things might help your child during their stay e.g. favourite toys/comforters.



Washing hands

Important for patients, family and staff. Wash your hands after using the bathroom or handling any bodily fluids, and before entering and leaving your child's room and the ward. **It's ok to ask** "have you washed your hands?"



Stay clean and dry

Please let us know if dressings or bandages become wet or dirty, because this will help reduce the risk of infection.

Look out for red/irritated skin or swollen arms/legs

If you notice any changes to your child's skin such as redness, swelling or irritation let us know, particularly if they have a drip.



Understand the medications

Ask what medications your child is receiving and how they will help your child. Healthcare professionals should always check your child's name band and drug chart prior to giving any medication which is to make sure they receive the correct drug and dose. If you don't see this happen, ask staff to double check that the medication is for your child. **It's ok to ask** "Excuse me, that medication is not familiar to me. Can you please double check it against my child's chart?"

For any other concerns **It's ok to ask** any of the healthcare professionals.



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