



Children's Health - Getting Ready for the Hospital

At MUSC Health, it is our goal for you and your child to feel safe and cared for while at our hospital. Our care team members are here to help. To prepare for your child's stay with us, our patient and family advisors have created this list for you:

Things to talk about at your child's pre-admission appointment:

- Medications your child is taking.
- Allergies to medicine, food or latex.
- Reactions to anesthesia, blood transfusion, or medication.
- Previous illnesses or operations.
- Previous hospital stays, tests or treatments.
- Who will be providing care?
- Are there eating and drinking restrictions before coming to the hospital?
- How long will your child be in the hospital?
- What are the possible risks?
- Will your child need medicine, therapies, follow-up care?
- What is the recovery time?
- Who can help you with questions about payment and insurance?
- Have you considered contacting the surgical Child Life Specialist to help your child feel prepared (843-985-1446 or e-mail mcmillbm@musc.edu)?

What to bring with you:

- List of emergency contacts.
- Picture identification and insurance cards.
- Proof of guardianship (foster parent papers, court orders) if you are not the legal parent of the patient.
- Comfortable clothing, pajamas, slippers, and a change of clothes.
- Personal items like a toothbrush and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, glasses or contacts, ear plugs, or an eye mask.
- A list of all of your child's medications.
- Special bottle, nipple, pacifier or sippy cup.
- Things to occupy your child's and your time while waiting. For example, your child's favorite toy, blanket or comfort item. For you, devices like a cell phone or a laptop computer and chargers. You can connect to our free wireless network called "MUSCguest." Other items include magazines, a note pad, or work for your job or school.
- Your child's car seat for transportation after discharge.



- For your safety and the safety of our care team, a mask must be worn at all times. This includes when you leave your child's room and when a care team member is in the room. The hospital has disposable masks and will provide one for you or you may bring your own.
- Meal money and snacks.
- Money for parking in the garage.

Helpful Suggestions:

- Two supportive care people may stay at all times with pediatric inpatients. Check on the status of our COVID-19 family presence and visitation policy. <https://muschealth.org/patients-visitors/coronavirus-information>
- Have a plan for who will care for your other children while you are at the hospital. At this time, siblings are not able to visit due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Make a list of questions for your care team as you think of them. Ask these questions before your child's stay or while in the hospital.
- Questions and concerns may come up at any time. Keep a notepad and pen close by. If you don't have a notebook, ask a care team member for some paper for you to write down your questions. Then when the team is present, you can refer to your notes and ask!
- Make sure you have secured a ride home so you will be ready for discharge. Please notify your team if you have a transportation need.
- Notify your team upon admission of any needs you have that may impact discharge.

Address and Parking Garage Locations:

Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital & Pearl Tourville Women's Pavilion:

10 McClennan Banks Drive
Charleston, SC 29425

**Located near the corner of Calhoun Street and Courtenay Drive [Directions](#). Valet parking services are available at this location; Patients may also park in McClennan Banks Garage. Address and directions below:*

McClennan Banks Parking Garage:

21 McClennan Banks Drive
Charleston, SC 29425

**The McClennan Banks Garage can be accessed via Bravo Street, Ralph H. Johnson Boulevard Drive, or McClennan Banks Drive from Calhoun Street. [Directions](#)*

*Prepared for you by the Children's Health Patient and Family Advisory Council and the Youth Patient Advisory Council.

