

Day of Surgery Centre (DOSC) *Criteria for Patient Discharge*

The following criteria must be met before a patient can be discharged home from the Day of Surgery Centre (DOSC)

The criteria have been developed and approved jointly by the departments of:

- ✦ Nursing
- ✦ Anaesthetics
- ✦ Surgery

CRITERIA

- ✦ The patient must be rousable
- ✦ Vital signs must be stable and within age appropriate limits for 30 minutes post-procedure
- ✦ The patient must have minimal or no pain
- ✦ The patient must have minimal or no bleeding or wound discharge
- ✦ The patient must have minimal or no nausea, vomiting or dizziness
- ✦ Medical staff have spoken to or arranged to speak with the caregiver post-operatively
- ✦ The patient/carer must be given and have the ability to understand and follow all written and verbal instructions for all relevant aspects of post-anaesthetic and surgical care
- ✦ The patient/caregiver must have a contact place and telephone number for emergency medical care as required
- ✦ The patient/carer must have readily available access to an emergency department post discharge from the Day of Surgery Centre
- ✦ Patients will be discharged at the discretion of the DOSC nursing staff
- ✦ The anaesthetist or surgeon must be informed of any concerns regarding a patient, with a review conducted prior to discharge
- ✦ It is desirable but **NOT** essential that the patient tolerate oral intake prior to discharge as long as provision is made to provide adequate hydration outside of DOSC
- ✦ It is **NOT** essential that the patient void prior to discharge

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VARIATIONS TO THE ABOVE CRITERIA

Special exceptions may be made at the discretion of the anaesthetist, surgeon or a senior DOSC nursing staff for patients where it would benefit the patient to be discharged home earlier than usual. These would include:

- ✦ An intellectual disability (i.e. Autism)
- ✦ Patients having a short procedure(i.e. lumbar puncture)

These patients may be discharged from the recovery room once alert and as long as the *Recovery Room* (MR 80QQ) discharge criteria are met

LONG STAY DAY CASE CRITERIA

Children having the following procedures must remain in the Day of Surgery Centre for a minimum of:

- ✦ 4 Hours post *Adenoidectomy*
- ✦ 4 - 6 Hours post *Tonsillectomy*
- ✦ 6 Hours post *Cerebral Angiogram*
- ✦ 3 Hours post *Renal Biopsy*

A telephone enquiry about the patients well-being should be made as requested the day after discharge by the DOSC nursing staff as per the Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association (ADSNA) guidelines

Approved by:

- ✦ Division of Surgery Heads of Department
- ✦ Dr. Philip Ragg (Anaesthetist)
- ✦ Sarah Geerts (Nurse Unit Manager – Day of Surgery Centre)

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