

## ***QUESTIONS FOR THE SURGICAL TEAM***

The following is a guide to critical questions to ask members of the craniofacial team prior to your child's surgery. Parents or caregivers have a right to as much information as possible regarding the procedure(s), possible risks, recovery time, progression and required at-home care.

1. What is the exact procedure that you will perform?
  - A. What are the alternative procedures?
  - B. Are there other procedures that can be done at this time as well?
  - C. Who will be the primary post-care physician; whom do we see?
2. Approximately how many times have you performed this surgery?
3. How long will the surgery actually take?
4. What are the risks/complications associated with this surgery?
5. Is observation time in the ICU necessary for this operation?
6. Can I accompany my child into the operating room?
7. How many hours will my child be in the recovery room?
8. Can I visit my child in the recovery room?
9. Will a blood transfusion be necessary? If it is, can I donate blood?
10. How long will my child be hospitalized?
11. Can I stay in my child's hospital room overnight? Are there *any* visiting restrictions?
12. What will my child look like after surgery, will there be any swelling or bruising?
13. Will my child go home with any dressings, sutures, tubes or machines?
14. Will my child require special care at home? If so, how can I be educated before admission to the hospital?
15. Can I see pre-op and post-op pictures of patients who have had similar surgeries?
16. How long will it be until the results of the surgery are clear? What can we expect?
17. Do we need to prepare ourselves for repetitive surgeries in the future? If so, how many additional operations may be required?
18. When will my child be able to attend school? Are there any restrictions when he/she is in school?

19. Does the hospital have a same-day admission policy?
20. Can I take a tour of the pediatric unit before my child is admitted?