

Frenulectomy - Post Operative Instructions

Surgery

Frenulectomy of the upper lip or tongue involves a brief anesthesia, typically 5 minutes or less. Patients may be irritable for 15-45 minutes after anesthesia. Most patients return to normal activity the same day. You may have nausea or vomiting, but it usually goes away by the evening of surgery without additional medication.

Medication

Most children do not need pain medications after this surgery; however you may use regular Tylenol or Motrin if you are concerned that your child is having pain.

Effects of Surgery

- Low-grade fever may occur. Tylenol (either by mouth or rectally) can be used. If your child has a fever greater than 102° F and doesn't respond to Tylenol, call the doctor's office
- Children can return to normal activity, school, or daycare the day after surgery
- If your child has nausea or vomiting, try giving sips of clear liquids like Sprite, water, or apple juice. Then gradually increase fluid intake. If the nausea or vomiting continues beyond 24-36 hours, call the doctor's office for medications that will help relieve the nausea and vomiting
- Some blood in the saliva (spit) is normal after surgery
- There will be a diamond-shaped wound under the lip or tongue, which will develop a yellowish-white scab a few days after surgery
- Your child can have a regular diet after surgery, but avoid acidic foods or drinks