

# Outpatients

If you don't need to stay the night then you're called an **outpatient**.

You check in at reception and wait for your name to be called.



There are outpatient departments for all kinds of treatments.

Cardiology  
- heart

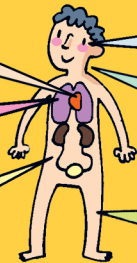
Ophthalmology  
- eyes

Asthma clinic  
- breathing

ENT  
- ears, nose  
and throat

Nephrology  
- kidneys  
and wee

Dermatology  
- skin



In **dermatology and allergy**, skin tests are used to find out about allergies.

In **ophthalmology**, eyes are checked using fancy machines.

At the **asthma clinic**, a specialist checks how well your lungs are working.

**Day surgery** is for minor operations, such as having your tonsils removed. Afterwards, you go home to rest.

'Ology' means the study of something.



# Scans and tests

There are lots of ways for doctors to find out what's going on inside your body.

**X-rays** beam out of a machine to take a picture of one part of your body.

A **CT scan** uses a ring-shaped machine to take X-rays all around your body.

In an **MRI scan**, magnets and radio waves work together to take pictures.



Blood travels all around the body, picking up clues along the way. A **blood test** takes a small tube of your blood, then scientists examine it in a special laboratory, using microscopes and machines.

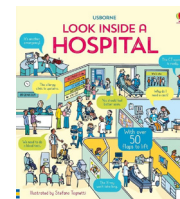
Doctors might also ask for a **urine (wee) sample**, to test for germs and infection, and to see how well your kidneys are working.



Everyone works together in a hospital to help you get better!

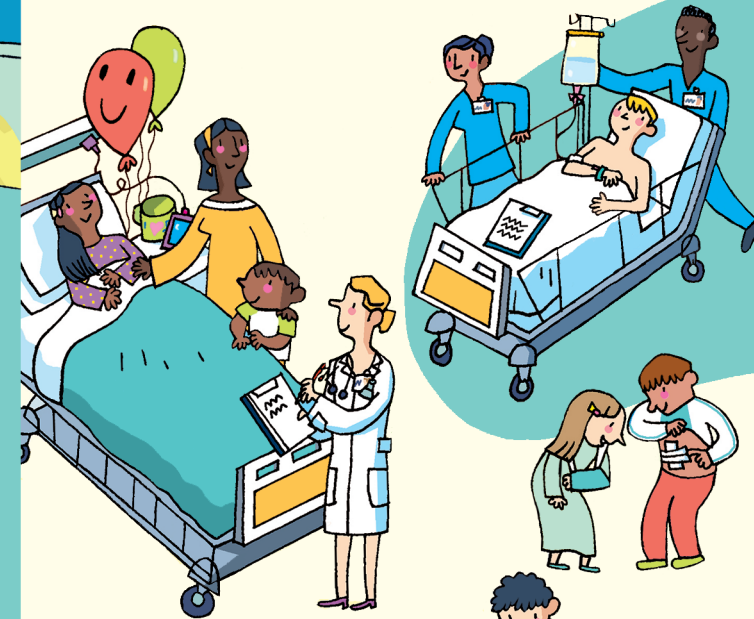


This leaflet is an Usborne/Cambridge University Hospitals collaboration. © Usborne Publishing, 2019. Find out more about what happens inside a hospital in the Usborne book *Look Inside a Hospital*.



# COMING TO HOSPITAL

A guide to what goes on



With extra advice from me!



Josh Hammond  
(a very brave patient)

Illustrations by  
Stefano Tognetti

# On the ward

People come into hospital when they're unwell, for treatment and to get better. You can bring your own clothes, toys, books and games with you.

I bring my favourite cuddly toy, Blue Roar.



When you arrive, you'll be shown to a bed where you can get comfy – either in a room of your own or in a **ward** with other children.



One of your parents can stay with you all the time. Other visitors are allowed, such as your grandparents or siblings, until it's time to go to sleep.

Here are some of the things you might do in a day.

Eat meals



Play



Do school work



Every day you will be seen by a **doctor** or **nurse**, who will tell you what's going to happen and will check you're feeling okay.

Everyone washes their hands lots in hospital. It's to get rid of nasty germs.



A nurse will bring around **medicine** from the **pharmacy** to make you feel better. This could be cream, tablets, liquids or an injection.

You'll just feel a little scratch.



You might need a **drip** to take your medicine.

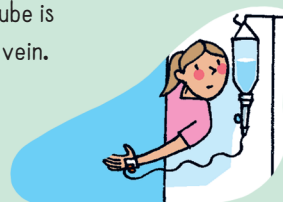
1. Special cream numbs the skin.



2. A thin tube is put into a vein.

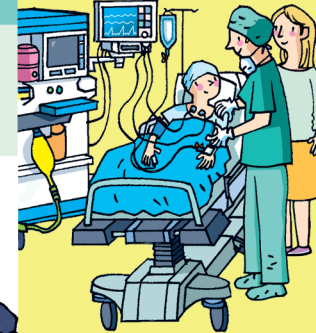


3. The tube links up to the drip bag.



# Operations

If you need an **operation** to make you better, doctors called **surgeons** will use special instruments to mend what's wrong.



An **anaesthetist's** job is to look after you during your operation. They will use a mask or an injection to put you into a special kind of sleep.

A simple operation can be over in minutes. More complicated ones may take hours.

Surgeons work as a **team** to make you better. They use different, clever surgery techniques.

After the operation, you will be taken to a **recovery area** where you will slowly wake up. Then you will be taken to a hospital room to rest with your parent or carer.

