



مركز التميز
لقلب الاطفال
PEDIATRIC CARDIAC
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
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**King Abdul-Aziz University
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**Preoperative care for open
heart surgery for children**

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Prepare your child for the open heart surgery:



1. You will visit cardiac surgery clinic then the surgeon will explain the surgery to you there and answer all your questions.

2. Keep your child away from people who have a cold, cough or fever, or have had any contact with someone who has a contagious disease like chickenpox or the measles (2 weeks ahead).

3. You will have referral to anesthesia clinic or the anesthesiologist will meet you before the surgery.
4. If your child age is over than one year old ,will need a dental check-up as this is necessary to minimize risk of infection during the surgery.
5. You have to complete blood donation before the surgery because blood transfusions are often needed for heart operations (4-6 donors usually).

6. Before the surgery you should take your child for Common pre-operative tests include an electrocardiogram, echocardiogram, chest X-ray and blood investigation and possibly a cardiac catheterization.



7. Talk to your child, encourage and explain the operation required and its purposes based in his/her age and maturity. It's important to present simple, truthful information and answer any questions your child asks. If you don't know the answer to a question, contact one of the specialists on your child's team to help get the information



8. Before surgery, the surgery team will come to obtain informed consent for the operation.

9. Fasting before surgery:

Infants younger than 6 months old may have:

- Breast milk / whole milk/ formula / Clear liquids (water) until 4 hours prior to the time of surgery.

Children older than 6 months may have:

- Breast milk / whole milk/ formula / Clear liquids (water) /Solids until 6 hours prior to the time of the surgery.