

**Division of Pediatric Orthopaedics**

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**NPO Policy for Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery**

**INFANTS (0-6 MONTHS OF AGE) WILL BE NPO (NOTHING BY MOUTH):**

- A. Solids: 8 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- B. Breast milk: 4 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- C. Infant formula: 6 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- D. For clear liquids: 2 hours before scheduled surgery or scan

**CHILDREN (6 TO 12 MONTHS) WILL BE NPO (NOTHING BY MOUTH):**

- A. Solids: 8 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- B. Breast milk or formula: 6 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- C. Clear liquids: 2 hours before scheduled surgery or scan

**CHILDREN (1 TO 12 YEARS OLD) WILL BE NPO (NOTHING BY MOUTH):**

- A. Solids: 8 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- B. Clear liquids: 2 hours before scheduled surgery or scan

**CHILDREN (12 YEARS OR OLDER) AND ALL ADULTS WILL BE NPO (NOTHING BY MOUTH):**

- A. Solids: 8 hours before scheduled surgery or scan
- B. Clears: 6 hours before scheduled surgery or scan

(Depending upon the procedure, it may be totally appropriate for this group to be NPO for clear liquids 2 hours prior to scheduled surgery, but this decision **MUST** be made **ONLY** by the consulting anesthesiologist on a patient-by-patient basis).

**\*\*\*FOR PURPOSES OF THIS POLICY, CLEAR LIQUIDS ARE:**

***Water, Apple juice only (pulp free), Clear broth, Pedialyte, Popsicles, Plain Jell-O***

