**CovidSurg-3**

**Patient Information Sheet for Parents / Guardians**

*A collaborative global study tracking the outcomes of surgical patients*

**Background**

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Previous studies found that patients who have COVID-19 around the time of surgery may be more likely to develop chest complications and have poor outcomes after surgery. To reduce these risks, hospitals put in place strategies to ensure patient safety (e.g. preoperative testing, COVID-free surgical pathways, SARS-CoV-2 vaccination).

**What is the purpose of the study?**

The emergence of the Omicron variant has introduced new uncertainty about the care of surgical patients during the pandemic. There is an urgent need to understand the impact of COVID-19 on patients who undergo surgery in the current situation, so that we can help future patients plan their treatment.

**What would your child taking part involve?**

This study will include all patients of all ages undergoing surgery who have tested positive on a SARS-CoV-2 PCR or rapid antigen test in the 7 days before or the 30 days after surgery. Participation in this study will simply mean that we monitor the course of your child’s treatment in hospital and collect some extra data for the purposes of research. Your child's clinical care will not change whether or not you decide for them to participate in the study. Your child will not have to undergo any extra tests or procedures. If you wish for them to participate, a member of your healthcare team will ask you to sign a consent form for them. There is nothing else for you to do.

Data will be collected from your child’s medical records regarding their care. This data will be fully anonymised so that your child cannot be identified from it.

Participation in this study is voluntary and you can withdraw your child from the study within 30 days from the date you sign the consent form. You do not need to give a reason for why you wish to withdraw and doing so will not impact your child's treatment.

**What are the risks and benefits of taking part?**

If you agree that your child will take part in this study they will be at no additional risk. This is because nothing about their treatment will change. We simply wish to monitor their normal treatment. It has no additional risk above normal treatment and no changes to your child’s treatment will be made whether or not you decide for them to participate. The information collected from your child will be very useful to understand the impact of COVID-19 on surgical patients and this will help us to improve treatments for future patients.

**What information will be collected from my child?**

We will collect background medical information, information around the reason why your child came to hospital, the tests your child had, and the treatment your child receive in hospital.

**Further information**

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to ask your doctor about any aspect of this study. You can also visit our website or contact the central research team.

**Website:** https://globalsurg.org/projects/

**Email:** covidsurg@contacts.bham.ac.uk

**Twitter**: @CovidSurg