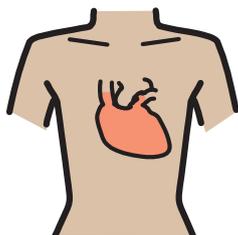
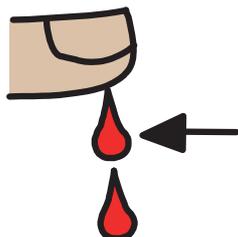


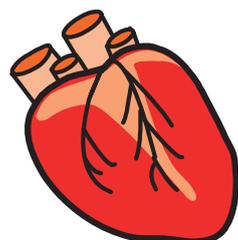
Having a heart operation



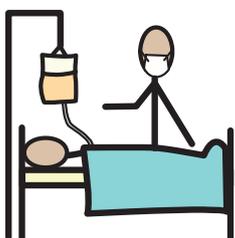
Your heart is in your chest.
It squeezes and relaxes to pump blood around the body.



Blood carries oxygen and goodness to every part of your body.
Your body needs oxygen and food to work.



Sometimes the heart doesn't develop properly before the baby is born.
A baby may be sick when they are born or get sick a while later.



Some heart problems need to be fixed in an operation.
Some operations are short and simple, but others are very difficult.

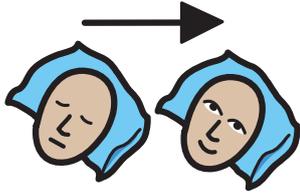


Most operations happen while you are under anaesthetic.
This is like a special sleep. This means you will not feel anything
or know what happens during the operation.

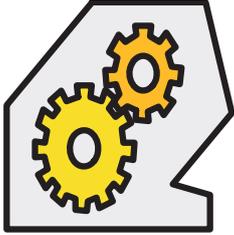


The doctor will make the heart work better during the operation.
They might close a hole in the heart or move the blood vessels
joined to the heart.

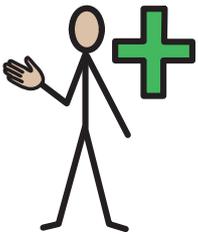
Having a heart operation



You will come back to the ward to wake up from the anaesthetic.



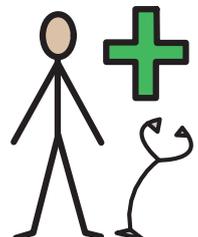
There may be machines around you to check that you are getting better.



Your nurse will also check the machines. They will make sure you are not sore after the operation.



You can go to the play room when you feel better.



The doctor will tell you when you can go back home.



If you have any questions, please ask us.