The Learning Disability Protocol for Preparation for Theatre and Recovery

- Discuss the patient's needs with them and their family/carers.
- Use ‘comforters’ to relax the patient pre op and in recovery.
- Document and handover to colleagues.

Recover patients with learning disabilities slower than those without one.

a) Lower levels of noise and light
b) Place the patient in a quiet area within recovery
c) Ensure parents/carers are present and involved.
d) Gradually recover observing how the patient is progressing

If the patient is disturbed or distressed in Recovery please consider post operative pain then:
1. Call an anaesthetist to use sedation to induce a relaxed, sleepier state.
2. Increase levels of sedation as required.

For more information and advice: www.gosh.nhs.uk/intellectual-learning-disability