Visual Schedule: Getting My IV

First, I go to the hospital or doctor office. When I get to there, I wait until it is my turn. I can sit by myself or sit in my parent’s lap. If I get nervous, I can listen to music, hold my parent’s hand, or hold my favorite toy.

The staff member wraps a band around my arm. It hugs my arm.

Then my arm is cleaned with a wipe. This may feel cold. I am safe and this does not hurt me.

The staff member places my IV. Tape is used to keep my IV safe.

My medicine goes in the IV. I do not touch my IV. It must stay in place until the staff member takes it out.

I am all done. Now, I can have a reward like a sticker. I did a great job.

Teaching stories and visual schedules are effective learning tools for children with special needs. Showing your child teaching stories multiple times before your child’s medical visit may help them understand what to expect. Using visual schedules during the medical visit can improve cooperation.

Our goal is to reduce the stress of the visit and improve your child’s overall experience at Children’s National. We welcome any feedback or questions: Autism Behavioral Consult 202-476-2884.