



# David Cassidy HOSPITALIZED

Since David Cassidy was 14 years old, he has had what most moms and dads might refer to as "tummy trouble". Everybody has a weak spot—a place that "acts up" when they are under stress or a lot of pressure or upset about something. David's weak spot has always been his abdominal area and, being a bright young man, he has learned over the years to "take it easy" when it comes to eating, resting and caring for himself when he is under stress or knows that he will be subjected to intense pressure.

For instance, working on *The Partridge Family*, cutting records, doing live concerts and being as available as possible for press interviews, photo sessions, etc. has placed a gigantic demand on David over the past year and it's no surprise that this unrelenting pressure has ultimately led up to David's recent surgery.

## WHAT'S THE MATTER?

During the three months prior to entering Mt. Sinai Hospital for surgery, David had been taking medication for his tummy pains. His physicians, his mother and himself had all been watchful and careful, hoping that this annoying condition might one day just pass away. But, alas, such was not the case. And — in a sense — David's very lucky for surgery to remove the gallbladder, though it is quite painful, is not very serious. It can be equated to an appendectomy, and the removal of David's gallbladder can be done without endangering David's present or future health in any way.

Calcium and fatty deposits in the gallbladder are an inherited characteristics and sometimes a person may have gallbladder trouble all his life without having to have surgery. On the other hand, there are those like David who are seriously troubled by the gallbladder and, ultimately, the best thing to do is to have it removed. The function of the gallbladder itself is to help the digestion system break down fats so, for instance, after David's gallbladder operation, it will simply mean that his future diet will preclude eating any fats or high cholesterol foods (pork, egg yolks, butter, etc.).

## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

In doctor's language the "prognosis" for David's operation is "very optimistic". Usually a person who has gallbladder surgery has to stay in the hospital seven or eight days, then has to rest at home for a couple of weeks. But they are ambulatory — or walking about — within three or four days after surgery. After a couple of weeks of rest at home, the first week out should be taken very easily and then the person can go about leading their normal life at approximately 75% of "full steam". By the end of the sixth week, under normal conditions, David should be completely recuperated and able to resume full-time work on *The Partridge Family*, his record sessions and his live concerts.

## CONCERTS CANCELLED

Probably one of the most disappointing "side effects" of David's surgery is the fact that lots and lots of you 16-ers and Spec-ers who bought tickets to see one of his in-person concerts will not be able to see David perform live — as, of course, it will be much too risky for him to take the chance of returning to the concert stage without recuperating properly first. So — though many of you will be very, very disappointed — you know in your heart that not only was this operation needed, it was all for the best that David take his rest and look after himself. After all, David's well-being and health come first!

## TV'S DAVID CASSIDY UNDERGOES SURGERY!

Los Angeles, July 13 — David Cassidy, 21, star of television's *The Partridge Family*, and Bell Records singing star, today underwent surgery to remove his gallbladder at the Mt. Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. A spokesman at the hospital said Mr. Cassidy was admitted on Monday, July 12 suffering from acute abdominal pains. Tests revealed that gallbladder surgery was necessary. The spokesman said such surgery for a young person is "unusual", but physicians expect "full recovery".

Because of the emergency surgery Cassidy was forced to postpone a number of television tapings of *The Partridge Family* and was also forced to cancel a number of singing engagements.

From the Los Angeles Examiner