

Cardiac Surgery

	Pre-Op	Day of Surgery	ICU
What to Expect	TWY WANT	Lots of tubes – to be taken out over the next few days. Will have some pain.	Slowly pulling out tubes. Will have pain – TAKE YOUR PAIN MEDICATION.
Respiratory	Practice deep breathing. NO smoking.	On ventilator, Once awake breathing tubes out – slow deep breaths.	Deep Breaths. Incentive Spirometry – this will hurt but is important.
Activity	Normal routine. Shower.	Once breathing tube out – dangle feet. Then out of bed in chair.	Sit in chair. Once some tubes are out walk in room.
Nutrition	Light dinner. Don't eat after midnight.	Ice chips. Clear liquid when tubes are out. We monitor what you drink.	Full liquids.
Special Points	Discuss special needs with cardiac surgery nurses. Make sure someone is home with you.	Limited family visits. Remember: Dentures/Glasses. Frequent Rest Periods.	Remember robe/slippers. Short family visits.
Discharge Planning	Start planning now for your discharge needs. Home care and Rehab is available.	What help will you need when you go home?	

Patient Pathway

Post-Op	Post-Op	Discharge		
Day 1 & 2	Day 3 & 4	Post-Op 5 & 6	At Home	
Telemetry, Small Heplock. Tubes keep coming out.	Most tubes out. Will have drainage from incisions – this is normal.	NO tubes. Make suture appointment. Drainage will start to slow down.	Shower daily – if possible.	
Dec ONLY YOU	Continue deep breathing. Incentive Spirometry. No smoking.			
Out of bed in chair for meals. Feet elevated. Walk in hallway -100 feet.	Walk, Walk, Walk – 100 feet, 3 times a day. Begin Stairs.	Walk, Walk, Walk – at least 200 feet, 4 times a day. Frequent rest periods.	Walk, Walk, Walk – Frequent rest periods.	
Low salt, low cholesterol. May have poor appetite but it is important to eat.	Tell us if you cannot go to the bathroom.	Small frequent meals. Nutritional education.		
TAKE YOUR See A				

PAIN MEDICATION.

Meet discharge planner or social worker.

Start making arrangements to go home.

Going home if OK with physician.

Cardiac Rehab – Mended Hearts. Post-Op Education.

Home care or Rehab facility