

Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU)

The PACU (phase 1) provides a safe environment for your family member while they recover from the medications provided by the anesthesiologist during surgery.

The nurses will be providing additional medicines to relieve discomfort and pain during recovery.

The UM BWMC PACU provides support to the critically ill surgery patients and patients who will go home the same day.

Patients will remain in phase 1 until pain is managed and certain criteria are met to be transferred to another level of care:

Discharge Area (phase 2)

Extended Care within PACU (phase 3)

Inpatient Bed

Critical Care Bed



Visitation is restricted in PACU (phase 1). However, the nurse will contact the family spokesperson within 60 minutes of PACU arrival and provide additional updates. Our volunteers will be happy to check on your loved one at any time.

Once the patient is transferred to phase 2 or phase 3, you are reminded that this is a time when your loved one needs to rest and begin the healing process.

Arrangements should be made for any child under 12, as they may not visit in any of the surgery areas.

Information for Surgery Visitors

WELCOME TO THE SURGERY CENTER AT
UM BALTIMORE WASHINGTON MEDICAL CENTER



PLEASE TAKE TIME TO REVIEW THE INFORMATION IN THIS BROCHURE.



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE WASHINGTON
MEDICAL CENTER

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Pre-Anesthesia Care

DURING THE ADMISSION PROCESS:

Nurses are interviewing and updating the patient's health history, medication lists, and preparing your family member for surgery. The surgeon and anesthesiologist will be reviewing any information that has been updated by the nurse.

An intravenous (IV) is being started to allow the delivery of fluids and a way for medications to be given to help with relaxation. The nurses will prepare other physician ordered medications that will promote safe surgery including antibiotics as needed.

There may be additional laboratory tests required today that may delay surgery.

When this process is complete, the nurse will invite you to join your loved one and calm any additional fears around the planned surgery.

Thank you for your patience while we provide attentive and caring services.



During Surgery

Our surgery team of doctors, nurses and support employees will be working together to create a safe environment for your family member during their surgery.

OUR VISITORS ARE IMPORTANT!

The operating room nurse will call to the visitor area to update your selected family spokesperson when surgeries are delayed or prolonged.

Please remember that surgery can be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. We make every effort to let you know when that happens. The team will pay the same attention to your care needs during your surgery.

Children who are having surgery are comforted when a parent is nearby. We make every effort to assure that a parent can be in attendance whenever appropriate. Please do not leave the hospital during this time.