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Post anesthesia care unit (PACU) update

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The Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) is a key element in ensuring a successful operative experience. Recovery from surgery is dependent on a transition from the intensive focus of the operating room to safe care in the hospital ward or home after surgery. The key area of transition is the PACU. It is in the PACU that the patient 'awakens' from anesthesia. Respiratory function has to be maintained and stable vital signs have to be assured. In addition, pain issues as well as postoperative nausea have to be addressed. In an effort to facilitate throughout each type of surgery is establishing protocols to aid in rapid recovery, minimize pain, increase ambulation, and decrease hospital stay. What are the keys to ensuring patient safety in the PACU?

Biography

Amballur D. John is currently an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Director of Student Education, Department of Anesthesia at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, USA. He did his B.A. from Harvard University and his M.D. from New York Medical College, USA. He has trained in Internal Medicine Residency at Metro West Medical Center, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine Residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and his Fellowship in Cardiac Anesthesiology from Johns Hopkins Hospital, Cardiac Anesthesiology from Massachusetts General Hospital.

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