

IMMEDIATELY AFTER SURGERY:

Care Partners monitor monitors! Immediately after surgery, your loved one will still be asleep and transferred to a recovery area to gradually wake up.

Any surgery is a shock to the system, so this is a critical time to monitor the after-effects. Most patients are put on electronic medical monitoring devices ... but these are not always perfect. So, sit beside your loved one and think of yourself as a monitor, too.

Notice anything that doesn't seem right? Get a nurse right away! They will be grateful for your extra watchful eyes and ears on their patient.

REMEMBER,
IT'S OKAY TO
SPEAK UP!

Care Partner, you are the extra layer in the safety net all great hospitals want for their patients.

- Wait in the hospital during surgery** and sit beside your loved one in the recovery area.
- Make sure your loved one is warm.** It's okay to ask for an extra blanket or even two!
- Follow up** on any post-surgery antibiotics
- Ask the surgeon:** *Were there complications during surgery?*
(If so, ask:) *"What were they?"*
- Ask that a copy of the surgery notes** be included in your loved one's electronic medical record.



GET A NURSE DURING RECOVERY IF:

- A monitor alarm goes off.
- Your loved one shows signs of or complains about:
 - Chills, shivering.
 - Nausea.
 - Vomiting.
 - Choking.
 - Any struggle for breath.
 - Headache, confusion.
 - Pain.