

## **Cardiac Surgery Clinical Pathway Guidelines**

Date:	D D M M M Y Y Y Y Y (24 Hour)
ASSESSMENT	<ul> <li>Continuous cardiac monitoring (telemetry). Change electrodes q72h &amp; PRN. Record rhythm strip on transfer to ward, q8h, with rhythm changes, or chest pain</li> <li>ST monitoring (Lead II, V5) with suspected ischemia</li> <li>BP, HR, RR, temperature on ward transfer, q2h if &lt; 24 hours post-op, q4h x 4, then q6h</li> <li>CAM and neurological check q8h</li> <li>Pain assessment q1h &amp; PRN</li> <li>Head to toe assessment on transfer, q4h until 24 hours post-op, then q8h</li> <li>Titrate oxygen to SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 92%.</li> <li>Daily SpO<sub>2</sub> on room air. Discontinue oxygen when SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 92% on room air</li> </ul>
TESTS	<ul> <li>Culture: blood, wounds, sputum &amp; urine C&amp;S if temp ≥38.5 C (CABG) or ≥38 C (valve)</li> <li>If on Warfarin: Daily INR</li> <li>Glycemic Protocol</li> </ul>
TREATMENTS	<ul> <li>Intake &amp; Output x 3 days</li> <li>Weigh daily in am</li> <li>Graft site: wrap affected limb in tensor x 48 hours. Re-wrap q12h</li> <li>Change sternal &amp; graft site dressing daily &amp; PRN. Leave open to air if no drainage</li> <li>Chest tube dressing for 48 hours post chest tube removal</li> </ul>
INTRAVENOUS	Reduce IV rate to keep the vein open or lock off once oral intake is adequate     Check IV sites & rate q1h
ACTIVITY	<ul> <li>Hygiene: self-care/assist (encourage female patients to wear bra)</li> <li>Activity progression:  Day of surgery - dangle by 6 hours post-op &amp; up in chair by 12-24 hours post-op  Step 1 <ul> <li>Deep breathing &amp; supported coughing q1h while awake to continue during hospital stay</li> <li>Transfer with sternal precautions (assist as needed) to continue during hospital stay</li> <li>Range of Motion exercises - foot/ankle, hip/knee &amp; unilateral shoulder flexion 2-3 times daily to continue during hospital stay</li> <li>Sit up in chair - 2 times &amp; PRN</li> <li>Walk (assisted) 2-3 times daily</li> </ul> </li> <li>Step 2 <ul> <li>Sit up in chair for all meals &amp; PRN to continue during hospital stay</li> </ul> </li> <li>Walk in hall (assisted) 4-6 times daily</li> </ul> <li>Step 3 <ul> <li>Walk in hall (assisted as needed) 4-6 times daily</li> </ul> </li> <li>Step 4</li> <li>Walk in hall (assisted as needed) 4-6 times daily</li> <li>Climb 1 flight of stairs (12 steps) with staff (assisted as needed)</li>
PSYCHO- SOCIAL	Assess emotional/spiritual concerns & ability to cope with cardiac condition
REVIEW PLAN	To advance to the next step, the following outcomes must be met:  • Vital signs stable with SpO₂ ≥ 92%  • Tolerate oral intake  • Tolerate Step specific activities with no/minimal discomfort with mobilization  • Understands Step specific education while coping with his/her cardiac condition  Step 1 – Date   □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



## **Cardiac Surgery Clinical Pathway Guidelines**

Cardiac Surgery Inpatient Unit - Discharge and Teaching Checklist		Date (dd/mmm/yyyy)	Initials
STEP 1	Nursing:  • Ensure patient has their Patient Guide to Heart Surgery Booklet (PGHS) (if non-elective case –give patient a copy of PGHS) o Ask patient/family to read page 12  • Confirm family physician & ensure s/he is added as Primary Care Provider • Receiving homecare pre-op □ Yes □ No if yes, send consult • Identify concerns/needs post discharge: Consult □ Home Care □ Occupational Therapy □ Social Work		
STEP 2	Nursing:  Discuss target discharge date with patient/family.  Reinforce what to expect after surgery (PGHS pages 13-15).		
	Physiotherapy  Review care of breast bone (PGHS page 19)		
	o If not referred, why?  Clinical Nutrition (choose one of the following)  Review nutritional guidelines (PGHS pages 32-38) OR  Referred to out-patient cardiac nutrition class		
STEP 3	Nursing: Reinforce target discharge date with patient/family View "Your heart, your health-a guide to heart surgery" DVD Complete Coping with a Cardiac Event Checklist with patient o If patient exhibits acute mental distress, follow up with physician/delegate to initiate an inpatient psychiatry consult		
	Physiotherapy Review resuming activity: driving, back to work, sexual activity (PGHS pages 20-21) Review Home Exercise Program (PGHS pages 28-29) Review appropriate activity level for home.		
STEP 4	Nursing/Pharmacy:  • Review medications, reasons for each medication, potential side effects, administration times, handling of missed doses (PGHS pages 23-25)		
	On Warfarin pre-op □ Yes □ No     Follow up by □ Post-Op Cardiac Surgery Clinic □ Family physician     Reviewed Warfarin teaching package & viewed Warfarin teaching video		
	<ul> <li>Nursing</li> <li>Review the "Just the Facts" sheet and follow up appointment on the Discharge Summary Note</li> <li>IV discontinued at</li> <li>Telemetry discontinued at</li> </ul>		
	Discharged athours, accompanied by		