

Help Your Loved One Recover from Surgery

- ✓ Wait in the hospital during surgery and sit beside your loved one in the recovery area.
- ✓ **Follow the checklists to help prevent infection, blood clots, bed sores and other conditions.**
- ✓ Make sure **your loved one is warm.**
- ✓ **Begin planning for care at home.**
- ✓ Follow up on whether **post-surgery antibiotics** are given.
- ✓ **Ask the surgeon: Were there complications during surgery? If so, what were they? Examples include unexpected blood loss or changes in the original surgery plan.**

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- ✓ **Ask that a copy of the surgery notes** be sent to your loved one's home.

During Your Loved One's Recovery from Surgery,

Get a Nurse if:

- **A monitor alarm goes off**

Your loved one shows signs of (or tells you about):

- **Chills, shivering, body aches**
- **Headaches, confusion**
- **Unusual or extreme pain**
- **Oozing, pus**
- **Extreme redness where cuts were made for surgery**