

Patient Pathways were developed based on the *average path* a patient travels during their open heart surgery at Columbia Presbyterian and will not pertain to all patients.

	Day Of Surgery	Post Op Day 1	Post Op Day 2	Post Op Day 3	Post Op Day 4	Post Op Day 5
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Floor-Admitting • 4th Floor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Operating Room – Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) – Family Waiting Room • 5th Floor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (CTICU) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICU • May be moved to 5 Hudson North (5HN) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stepdown bed or regular bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5HN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stepdown or regular bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5HN • Possible Discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5HN • Possible Discharge 10:00 am 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5HN • Possible Discharge 10:00 am
What tubes and wires do I have?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intubated and attached to a ventilator to help you breathe • Pacing wires attached during surgery to allow your doctor to adjust your heart rate during and after surgery • Chest tubes to drain blood tinged fluid from around your heart and lungs • Intravenous (IV) lines provide access for fluids and medications • Heart monitor to record your heart rate and rhythm • Swan Ganz catheter to measure volume and pressure in your heart • Foley catheter to drain the bladder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacing wires may be removed • Chest tubes may be removed • Some IV's may be removed • In stepdown, you may have a heart monitor (telemetry) • Swan Ganz catheter removed • Foley catheter may be removed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacing wires removed • Chest tubes may be removed • Some IV's may be removed • Foley catheter removed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining IV's removed upon discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IV's removed upon discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IV's removed upon discharge
What tests may be performed? (Per doctors orders)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood drawing to detect any imbalances • Chest x-ray to see lung condition and heart size • Electrocardiogram (EKG) to look at your heart rate and rhythm • Possible echocardiogram (ECHO) to identify fluid around your heart and evaluate pumping action • Arterial blood gas to measure blood oxygenation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood drawing • Chest x-ray • EKG • Possible ECHO • Possible arterial blood gas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood drawing • Chest x-ray • EKG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood drawing • EKG 		
What can I do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As long as you are intubated, you will not be allowed out of bed but you will be repositioned every 2 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit up in a chair • Chest physiotherapy, followed by deep breathing and coughing, will help loosen secretions in your lungs • Practice with incentive spirometer to increase lung capacity • Flex and point toes while in bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk short distances with PT • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Coughing • Use incentive spirometer • Deep breathing • You may hire a private duty nurse or aide at 212-305-2525 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk 3-5 times daily as directed by PT • Climb stairs with PT • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Coughing • Use incentive spirometer • Deep breathing • Receive education on home walking program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with exercise plan at home • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Coughing • Use incentive spirometer • Deep breathing • Receive directions on medication and post operative care at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with exercise plan at home • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Coughing • Use incentive spirometer • Deep breathing • Receive directions on medication and post operative care at home
What can I eat?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No food or drink the day of surgery • After surgery, if extubated, you may begin with ice chips and drinking clear liquids. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance to solids as tolerated • Medications by mouth • An expanded menu is available for an extra cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart healthy diet • Clear any food brought from home with your Physician Assistant (PA) or surgeon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart healthy diet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue heart healthy diet at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue heart healthy diet at home
How do I feel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue • Possible disorientation • Soreness, discomfort with breathing tube 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue • Incisional discomfort relieved by pain medication • Pain medication provided upon request • Possible palpitations (approximately 30% of patients experience episodes of atrial arrhythmias that may occur for up to 3 months) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue and soreness • Some depression is normal • Pain medication provided upon request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible fatigue and soreness • Some depression is normal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue and soreness may last 1 month or longer • Some depression is normal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue and soreness may last 1 month or longer • Some depression is normal
Social Work			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with social worker to discuss discharge planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify discharge plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregiver involvement is essential to your discharge plan 	
What about my family?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 2 family members may accompany you to OR Holding Area. Then they may wait in the Waiting Room, at home, at work, etc. If they will not be waiting at the hospital please provide your surgeon's office with a contact number. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ask all staff and visitors to wash hands or use Purell when entering and leaving patient rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with social worker to discuss discharge planning • Attend education seminars on 5HN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify discharge plan • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Bring clothes for discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify discharge plan • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Bring clothes for discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify discharge plan • Attend education seminars on 5HN • Bring clothes for discharge
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICU visiting hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 11am – 6:30pm and 8pm – 10pm – You may visit for 10 – 15 minutes each hour – Please call before visiting – Gowns/ gloves may be required during ICU visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Hudson North has open visiting hours • Up to 2 people may visit you at a time 				