

# Post Anesthesia Care Unit

## Recovery Room

### Helpful Hints for Families/Significant Others:

- Please designate a family spokesperson for contact with hospital staff and make sure that they keep their cell phone on.
- Please check in with the Volunteer desk in the Surgery waiting area in the first floor lobby (by the fish tank). In the absence of a volunteer at the surgery waiting desk, feel free to answer the phone if it rings.
- The surgeon will plan to speak to you in the waiting area after surgery.
- If your child is having surgery, the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) nurse will call you as soon as possible.
- In case you are called to come to the PACU; it is located directly next to the Preoperative department on the second floor of the Long Tower.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### 1. What is happening during the Recovery Room stay?

- Patients are “waking up” from anesthesia. Vital signs are monitored, medications are given for discomfort, postoperative orders are received and implemented.
- Once recovery room discharge criteria are met, your family member will be transferred to their room.
- The PACU nurse will call the contact person to let you know when your family member is on their way to their room.
- For patients planning to go home that same day from surgery, the family member will be called up to the PACU to review discharge instructions.

#### 2. Can I visit my family member in PACU?

- Due to the open bay design of the PACU, open visitation is limited so that we can protect the privacy of our patients. If you are asked to come into the unit we ask that you please respect the privacy of the other patients.

