

What to expect in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit

Please note: this is a general timeline. Every patient and surgical procedure is different.

0-1 hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Asleep, connected to tubes and monitorsFamily can have a short visit
1-3 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Start to wake up, if stable and readyOpen eyesYou will have a breathing tube and won't be able to talk
4-6 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Check pain level, give more medicationRemove breathing tube if breathing well
6+ hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Family's second visitCan have ice chips after breathing tube is outSit at edge of bed, hugging pillow (nurse will help)
Overnight	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Overnight doctor visitMedication, blood work and assessments done as needed
Next morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sit in chair for breakfastSurgery team doctor visits and may remove chest tubeICU doctor and nurse check if ready for inpatient unit
Next day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sit in chair for each mealUse sternal precautions when movingStart home medications

For more information about what expect in the CVICU,
scan this QR code with the camera on your phone or device.

