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Post Anesthetic Care Unit Issues for the Cardiovascular Patient Undergoing Non-Cardiovascular Surgery

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The Post Anesthetic Care Unit (PACU) is a key element in ensuring a successful operative experience. Recovery from surgery is dependent on a transition for the intensive focus of the operating room to safe care in the hospital ward or home after surgery. The key area of transition is the Post Anesthetic Care Unit. It is in the PACU that the patient “awakens” from anesthesia. Respiratory function has to be maintained and stable vital signs have to be assured in addition, pain, issues as well as post-operatives nausea have to be addressed. In an effort to facilitate throughput, each type of surgery is establishing protocols to aid in rapid recovery, minimize pain, increase ambulation and decrease hospital stay. What are the keys to ensuring patient safety in the PACU? What are the special issues for the cardiac patient undergoing non-cardiac surgery?

Speaker Biography

Amballur David John is Assistant Professor of Anesthesia and Critical Care Medical at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Director of Student Education at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore USA. He trained in Internal Medicine Residency at Metro West Medical Center, Framingham MA. Training continued with residency in Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore Maryland with sub specialization fellowship in Cardiac Anesthesiology and Fellowship in Cardiac Anesthesiology at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA. He was formerly instructor at Harvard Medical School, Boston MA prior to his current appointment at Johns Hopkins. He is on several Editorial Boards and has published numerous articles and book chapters. His area of expertise include Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, Airway Management, Neuroanesthesia, Geriatrics, and the Post Anesthetic Care Unit. Dr. John's recent publications include the following books: Pocket Critical Care; Sancho Rodriguez Villar and Amballur David John, Marban 2018; and Anesthetic Essential Clinical Updates for Practitioners, A D John, Bentham (in press).

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