During surgery, you will have tubes put into your body. You will feel these when you wake up. Your arms will be tied down to keep you safe. Stay as calm as you can. The breathing tube will be removed when you are awake.







You will have a special IV line to give you medicine and a tube to drain your urine.

Shower in clean water

with an antibacterial soap.

Do not get in a bath, lake, or river until okay with your doctor.







PATIENT EDUCATION

On the morning of surgery, do not have anything to eat or drink.





The doctor will have you breathe in medicine to help you go to sleep during the surgery.

After surgery, you will need to do these things:

Cough and breathe deeply.

Hold your heart pillow tightly when you cough.



Get out of bed and walk often.



Wash your hands before changing your dressing.

Do not touch your incision.



Take your pain medicine.

You will have pain, but it can be controlled with medicine. There will be tubes in your chest to let fluid drain, and these can sometimes be more painful than the chest incision. Take pain medicine before the pain is very bad.



Avoid lifting heavy objects or pushing or pulling with your arms until your chest heals.



Do not smoke.

