

Guidelines for Patient Discharge from an Ambulatory Surgery Unit Utilizing Discharge Criteria

- Patient must be Phase II PACU state
- Patient must have a modified Aldrete score of 10
- Patients overall condition, including vital signs, is stable
- Pain and nausea are adequately controlled
- There are no apparent surgical complications
- No further intravenous analgesia is anticipated
- The patient tolerates the upright position
- The PACU nursing staff agree that all criteria are met and the anesthesiologists presence is no longer required
- PACU nursing staff has the appropriate telephone and/or beeper number to contact an anesthesiologist
- The anesthesiologist has written an order for discharge

(MTD/PT dschrg amb-surg.lst)