QR code for mobile view



Evidence Based Practice

Standard post-op orders from surgeon

- Cerner: General surgery Post Op Bariatric (order set)
- Ondansetron q6hr prn
- Famotidine 20mg IV q12 hr
- Enoxaparin 40mg subq daily
- Ambulate with assistance q4hr
- Incentive spirometry 10x/hr while awake
- If diabetic, consult to endocrinology

Pain Management Goal: Minimize Opioids

- Fellow to order acetaminophen and ketorolac to alternate q3 hr beginning with ketorolac via IV for first 24-48 hrs
- PO oxycodone, prn first line breakthrough pain opioid
- · IV fentanyl, morphine, hydromorphone -2nd line opioids

Postoperative to Discharge

PACU handoff to Inpatient Nurse

- Report length of time in PACU
- Provide medications administered in the OR and PACU (including analgesics)
- Provide whether or not Bariatric Diet (BD) was initiated and amount of clear liquid successfully taken
- Report patient's overall status while on PACU

• Inpatient RN to order SPOT care cart

- Vital signs q2 hr for 24 hrs, then q4 hrs
- Initiate or continue Bariatric Diet 2 **No IVF** in the post-op period, unless indicated
- · Assess pain q4 hr

Start PO fluid volumes Does pt meet discharge over if pt vomits (4 hour time frame) criteria? Yes Discharge home with post-operative follow up visit in two weeks

Nutrition During Hospitalization

Special instructions: No carbonation, only sugar free liquids or water for clears, no caffeine, no straws

• Bariatric Diet 2 (Clear Liquids)

- Administer 2-4 fl oz/hr, given in 1 fl oz increments. Patient may then proceed to Diet 3 - protein shakes.
- Can be discharged home on Diet 2

Diet 3 is NOT required for discharge

• Bariatric Diet 3 (High Protein Full Liquids)

- 24-32 fl oz of high protein liquids total
 - Given in 4 fl oz protein drink "meals", 5-6x/day
 - -and-
 - 4-8 fl oz of clear liquids between meals, given over an hour

Encourage family members to offer fluids frequently

Last Updated: 11.10.2025

Discharge criteria

- Bariatric Diet 2 or 3
- Consume 4 oz of liquid per hour over 4 hours without emesis
- · Caregiver demonstrates understanding of diet and safety precautions via teach-back*
- Patient's pain controlled by PO medications- goal is acetaminophen only
- · Home health orders entered if needed

*RN to document and verify with teach back

- Caregivers demonstration of diet plan
- Caregivers demonstration of safety with transfers and ambulation of patient

Dehydration is the most common complication in the first 3 weeks after surgery

- Clear liquids are more important than the protein drinks
- Consider referral to hydration center - Surgery Clinic to refer

Abbreviations:

- NSAIDs- non-steroidal anti inflammatory drugs
- PACU post anesthesia care unit
- SPOT Severe Pediatric Obesity Taskforce