

**Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Perioperative Services Manual**

Title: **Local Patients Postoperative Assessment & Discharge**

Policy #: **PSM 300-11**

Purpose: To outline the **postoperative** assessment and discharge protocol for all patients who have received local anesthesia.

Policy Statement:

This policy pertains only to patients who have undergone a surgical procedure requiring only local anesthesia.

Guidelines for Implementation:

- 1) **Outpatients** will be escorted from the O.R. to the Phase 2 PACU (East) or to the Holding Area (West) by the O.R.RN.
- 2) A verbal handoff will be given by the O.R.RN to the receiving RN.
- 3) Postoperative assessment by the Phase 2 PACU / Holding RN will include, but is not limited to:
 - a) Patient's vital signs.
 - b) Location and condition of surgical site.
 - c) Patient's pain level. If pain is > 5, patient may be medicated according to Physician's orders.
 - d) **Patients who have received narcotics or sedatives must be accompanied home by a responsible adult.**
 - e) If the patient does not receive any narcotics or sedatives, they may be discharged alone.
- 4) Discharge instructions, prescriptions and an updated medication list will be reviewed with patient, and a copy will be provided to the patient
- 5) **Patients must attain a score of 8 on the Post Anesthesia Discharge Scoring System (PADSS) prior to being discharged from the Phase 2 PACU or Holding Area.**
- 6) **Inpatients** will return to the inpatient unit directly from the Operating Room. A verbal handoff will occur between the OR RN and the receiving RN.
 - a) If the receiving RN is unable to take a verbal handoff, the patient will return to the Holding Area

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