

## **SUMMARY**

The term recovery from anesthesia" means to return to the pre-anesthetic state or return to the predrug state.

For a significant number of patients, recovering from anesthesia can be a life- threatening process best managed by prompt intervention delivered by medical and nursing staff particularly skilled in airway management and pain relief.

In the past, evaluation of PACU "quality" has been limited to clinical aspects of care. Now, the concept of "value" is being defined as improvement in clinical outcome per dollar spent on PACU admission. Intensive care and postanesthesia care unit should be closely linked. Introduction of PACU facilities with highly qualified staff has reduced the rate of ICU admission. This led to a decrease in the incidence of cardiac arrest and hospital mortality.

The PACU should be close to the operating suite to permit anesthesiologists and surgeons to nearby and to permit rapid return of the patients to the operating room if necessary.

Each patients space should be well- lighted and large enough to allow easy access to patients in spite of poles for intravenous lines and ventilators.

The PACU should contain basic and additional equipment and drugs.