

Your Vascular Surgery Team

There are many people who will care for you after your vascular surgery. Each member of your health care team plays a vital role in your recovery. Each team member's focus is on you—the patient.

Your health care team will visit you every day. Your nurse will start the rounds with any events during the night. The nurse will discuss your questions and concerns. The providers will discuss your plan for the day. The health care team will talk about your discharge plan daily. Care team visits are a time for you to be involved with your care. Care team visits are also a good time to ask questions.

Surgeon: This is the doctor who will perform your surgery. Your surgeon helps manage the rest of the health care team around your needs. You will be seen by a vascular surgeon every day. You may see one of your surgeon's partners.

Fellows: Fellows are doctors who are training in vascular surgery. Fellows are near the end of their schooling.

Residents: Residents are doctors-in-training. They are learning to do all kinds of surgeries.

Nurse Practitioners (NP)/Physician Assistants (PA): The NP and PA work closely with your surgeon. The NP/PA is involved in all aspects of your care. They will be involved from pre-surgery work-up to your final post-op follow-up visit.

Nurses and Nursing Assistants (NA): Your nurses provide 24-hour bedside care. Your nurses have advanced training to watch you and see how you respond to treatment. The NA works with your nurse to provide bedside care for you.

Pharmacist: A pharmacist has special training to work with medicines. There is a pharmacist on our unit every day. They will help the team make sure your medicines are correct, safe, and work well.

Case Manager or Social Worker: Every patient is assigned a case manager or social worker. This person sets up any help you need after discharge. This person will help if you need to go to rehab or a nursing home.

Physical Therapy (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT): PTs will help you move safely. They may give you exercises to help you stay strong. OTs will make sure you can take care of your daily needs. This includes going to the bathroom, washing up, and brushing your teeth. The team will decide if you need these.



Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 11/2019. University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7817