

## Cardiac Arrest: Nurses Ruled Not Liable.

The family filed suit claiming that the nurses providing post-operative hospital care failed to notify the physician that their patient was having chest pains, shortness of breath, nausea and vomiting.

The patient went into cardiac arrest, a code was called, the patient could not be resuscitated and she died.

Both sides' expert witnesses agreed that nurses must be vigilant for signs and symptoms of an impending heart attack and must notify the physician and/or call a code. However, the jury in the Circuit Court, Madison County, Alabama accepted the nurses' testimony it started at 9:30 a.m., just before the physician was notified, not at 7:00 a.m. as the family claimed, and returned a verdict for the hospital. [Estate of Nayman v. Huntsville Hosp., 2007 WL 1248247 \(Dist. Ct. Madison Co, Alabama, February 23, 2007\).](#)