

Discharge Planning Guide

Reviewed by: _____
RN initials Date

We understand that no one likes going to the hospital. Our goal is to take the stress and inconvenience out of healthcare by letting you know what to expect during your stay. The Discharge Planning Guide is designed to help you transition from the hospital setting.

Based on your diagnosis, initial tests, and current health status, your anticipated discharge plan will be determined. On a daily basis your healthcare team will review your plan of care and needs for discharge.

Day of admission:

- ▶ Select someone to be your discharge resource person (spouse, family member or friend).

Role of the discharge resource:

A discharge resource is someone who is identified by the patient to:

- ▶ Participate in discharge education.
- ▶ Assist with arranging discharge transportation.
- ▶ Evaluate post discharge placement options (if applicable).
- ▶ Coordinate the delivery of supplies and equipment (if applicable).

Throughout your stay:

- ▶ Be involved ... You are a very important part of your healthcare team!
- ▶ Questions...write down any you may have.
- ▶ Share your questions and concerns with your healthcare team on a regular basis.
- ▶ Medication safety is very important. During your stay we will work together to review and compare the medications you were taking at home, the medications adjusted here because of your condition, and the medications you will be instructed to take upon discharge.

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Day before discharge:

- ▶ Talk with your physician and healthcare team about what your care needs will be after you leave the hospital.
- ▶ Ask about the medications you will need to take at home and how they may be different from what you were taking before you were in the hospital.
- ▶ Verify with the care team that discharge supplies/equipment have been arranged if necessary.
- ▶ Coordinate transportation with your discharge resource.

Day of discharge:

- ▶ To ensure a safe discharge, your physician and nurse will conduct a medication review to confirm your medications for discharge.
- ▶ Your nurse will review the discharge instructions and follow-up plans with you and your discharge resource.
- ▶ Be sure to gather all of your belongings prior to leaving your room. (This includes clothing, cell phones and chargers, dentures, hearing aides, etc...).
- ▶ Please be patient, we will coordinate the best plan for you and this usually involves multiple physicians. We will do our best to get you discharged in a timely manner.

After discharge:

- ▶ Follow discharge instructions carefully.
- ▶ Call your physician if you have any questions.
- ▶ Take all of your medications as directed.
- ▶ Follow through on all appointments as instructed.
- ▶ Be sure to complete the patient satisfaction survey, if you receive one, after discharge. Your feedback is valuable.

Our goal is to assure that you have a very good experience. Please record any questions you may have about your discharge:

Patient Experience Helpline

Edward Hospital: (630) 527-7225

Elmhurst Hospital: (331) 221-1115

Edward Hospital: (630) 527-7225