

Discharge Planning Protects You



Discharge planning protects patients by providing them and their caregivers with a care plan to follow after the patient's discharge from a hospital, nursing home, or other care setting. Health care professionals, the patient, and caregivers participate in discharge planning activities.

Provider Type and Service Provided	Discharge Planning Steps
<p>Acute Care Hospital for acute hospital inpatient care. and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility and Long-Term Care Hospital for post-acute care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange necessary post-acute care hospital services and care, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Transfer to rehabilitation facilities; ◦ Referral to medical equipment suppliers; ◦ Community resources; ◦ HHA; and ◦ Appropriate access to medications.
<p>Home Health Agency (HHA) for home health care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the patient's medical, health, and medication status in their discharge summary. • Unless required by State law or HHA policy, a physician's order is not required to receive home health care.
<p>Inpatient Psychiatric Facility for acute psychiatric treatment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a follow-up plan with the patient and all service professionals. • Include follow-up psychiatric treatment and medication in the follow-up plan.
<p>Long-Term Care Facility, also known as a Skilled Nursing Home, for skilled nursing care and related services or rehabilitation services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the resident's continuing care needs and services. • Consider the resident's and caregiver's preferences for care. • Coordinate the needed care and caregivers.
<p>Hospice services for the management of terminal illness and related conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account for the possibility of the patient's condition stabilizing and the patient no longer being considered terminally ill. • Plan for necessary family counseling, patient education, or other services prior to patient discharge from hospice.



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