

DISCHARGE PLANNING INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

PLANNING AHEAD TO ENSURE YOUR SATISFACTION: Being discharged from the hospital can be a complicated process. Discharge planning actually starts shortly after admission (sometimes prior to admission) and considers your needs after your hospital stay. **If there is anything that could complicate your discharge, please make us aware of it at the time of your hospital admission** (for example: need for medication pickup, transportation home, or help with personal care after discharge). We have a team of physicians, nurses, case managers/social workers, physical therapists and others evaluating your progress throughout your hospital stay. Our goal is to make your stay, discharge and recuperation as comfortable as possible.

PHYSICIAN COMMUNICATION AND EXPECTATIONS: Physicians try to inform you at least a day in advance when they think you will be ready for discharge. However, being discharged depends on their evaluation of you that actual day. Giving you an exact time of discharge is difficult because every patient's needs are different.

There are several actions that must occur after your attending physician tells you that you probably will be discharged today.

- All of your physicians need to agree that you are ready to be discharged.
- All tests must be completed as ordered, and results reviewed as necessary.
- All medications must be given as ordered prior to discharge.
- All patient education must be complete, including education from dietary, rehabilitation staff or other hospital department.
- Arrangements for equipment, oxygen or services needed prior to you arriving at home must be complete.

DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS: Once everything is complete as ordered and you are able to be discharged, your nurse will review your discharge and medication instructions with you and give you a copy. These instructions include:

- Follow-up appointment
 - When to make it
 - Doctor's name and telephone number
- Referrals to other agencies or services
 - Home Health Agency name and telephone number
 - Equipment name and telephone number
- List of all medications (indications, side effects, the dosage, times, and frequency)
- Prescriptions for newly prescribed medications
- Activity restrictions, if any
- Dietary recommendations
- Fluid requirements, if necessary
- Wound care and signs of infection information
- When to call your physician or return to the hospital

OUR GOAL IS SERVICE EXCELLENCE: You may receive a call after discharge to complete a **patient satisfaction survey**. Please take the time to complete this survey as your feedback is very important to us. Thank you for choosing Jupiter Medical Center.