

Social Work Department

Things to Think About When in the Hospital

We understand how overwhelming it can be when you or a loved one is in the hospital. This information is to help you manage during this difficult time.

What should I have with me in the hospital?

- Health insurance Card(s)
- Photo ID
- List of current medications and health care providers
- Emergency contact list
- Health Care Proxy or Living Will
- Name and phone number of home care agency and medical equipment supplier (if appropriate)

What else may be helpful to have with me in the hospital?

- Cell phone and charger
- Books and music
- Non-skid slippers and robe
- Eyeglasses and hearing aides (if appropriate)
- Photos of family and friends

What will I need when it is time to leave the hospital?

- Keys to your home
- Clothing, including jacket and shoes
- Someone to assist you home
- Transportation to get home
- Cane, walker, wheelchair (if appropriate)

What arrangements do I need to think about?

- Caring for my pets.
- Paying my bills.
- Getting my prescriptions filled.
- Making arrangements for food to be in the house when I arrive home.

Contact the social worker assigned to your medical team or clinic for additional help and information.

This information is brief and general. It should not be the only source of your information on this health care topic. It is not to be used or relied on for diagnosis or treatment. It does not take the place of instructions from your doctor. Talk to your health care providers before making a health care decision.

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