

Carers concerns

- If I have specific needs of my own, who should I ask?
- Do I have any choice in where my loved one goes to recover?
- Will I be notified before they leave the ward?
- Who do I contact if things go wrong when they are home?
- What special equipment will be needed at the home?
- Do we have to pay for the care at home?

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS:

Carers are entitled to an assessment of their own needs as part of the Care Act 2014. If you have a social worker they can complete this. If not, a carers assessment can be organised through the Carers Centre. Contact us for more information.



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A checklist for family carers whilst their cared for is in hospital

Working in partnership with the hospital, social services and carers

Questions to ask at the hospital

Carers need information and hospital staff are busy. Carers may not always find out what they need to know about the person they are caring for. This checklist is designed to help you get some of the information you need about the diagnosis and treatment of the person you care for.

You may be able to get some of this information from other members of the hospital team involved, or from written information that they can provide.

If the person gives you permission, the hospital will be able to give you information about their condition and care.

Although you may not want to ask all the questions listed, you may find that they help you in preparing to meet the hospital and social work team. Not everyone will need all the answers to all these questions at the same time. You may have questions that are not covered in this leaflet, but it should provide a helpful framework for deciding what you do need to know.

Name of the consultant or doctor:

Name of the ward Sister:

Ward contact details and visiting times:.....

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Name of the TICAT social worker at the hospital:.....

Contact number for Hospital social services:

Sharing of information

- Are the hospital staff able to share information about the patient with you?
- Will I be informed about important meetings concerning their care and treatment?

About the illness

What is the diagnosis or problem?

If a diagnosis has not yet been made, what are the possibilities?

Why has this happened to them?

Will they recover?

If a diagnosis has been made

What symptoms suggest this diagnosis/illness?

What is known about the causes of this disorder/illness?

What is likely to happen in the future? Will it get better or worse?

Where can I get written information about this disorder?

About care and treatment

What symptoms suggest this diagnosis/illness?

What is known about the causes of this disorder/illness?

What is likely to happen in the future? Will it get better or worse?

Where can I get written information about this disorder?

Care and treatment

What can I do to help?

How can I get advice and training in the day-to-day management of the illness?

How often can I visit?

Getting help

What do I do if I'm worried that they are becoming more unwell on the ward?

How can I get a second opinion?

Medication

What medication is being used? Are there any changes?

Discharge from hospital

What arrangements will be made for their care and monitoring after discharge from hospital?

If I am not able to look after the person when they are discharged, what will happen?

Am I expected to help with anything, especially medication?

Will Physio/OT/District Nurse services be in place after discharge?