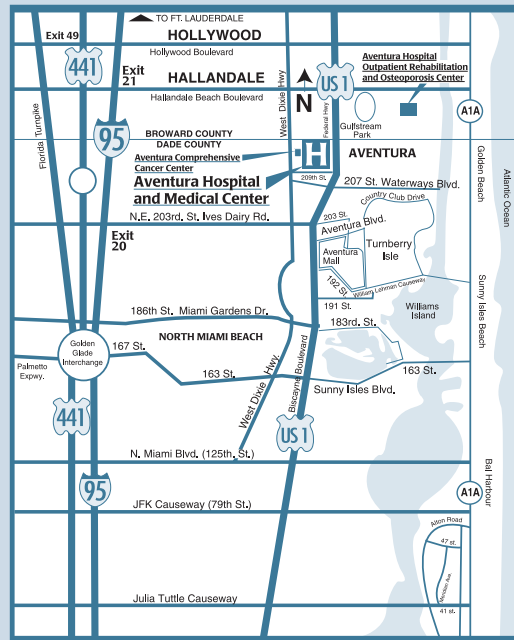


YOUR CASE MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

PLEASE CALL YOUR CASE MANAGER WITH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT DISCHARGE PLANNING AT **(305) 682-7121**. WE ENCOURAGE YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE SERVICES YOU RECEIVED BY CALLING THE DIRECTOR OF UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT AT **(305) 682-7122**.



Aventura Hospital and Medical Center

20900 Biscayne Boulevard • Aventura, Florida
www.aventurahospital.com

Main Number: (305) 682-7000
Discharge Planning: (305) 682-7121
Physician Referral: (866) 930-3627

WE HAVE HEALTHY PLANS
FOR YOUR FUTURE



**Aventura Hospital
and Medical Center**

20900 Biscayne Boulevard • Aventura, Florida

www.aventurahospital.com

(305) 682-7000

A PATIENT'S GUIDE TO DISCHARGE PLANNING

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE “DISCHARGED?”

“Discharge” from the hospital occurs when your physician has determined that an acute care setting is no longer necessary or appropriate for your condition. When the doctor decides you are ready, you will be discharged to your home or to another pre-determined facility to continue your recovery. The purpose of discharge planning is to ensure that you’re moved to an appropriate setting for treating your condition.

WHEN DOES THE DISCHARGE PLANNING PROCESS BEGIN?

The discharge planning process begins as soon as you are admitted to the hospital. Your case manager will interview you, your physician and key family members in order to accurately identify your needs and evaluate your options for post-hospital care.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR POST-DISCHARGE CARE?

There are three basic types of post-discharge care to take into consideration. They are not mutually exclusive, however, and your condition may call for a combination of two or even all three types of care.

SKILLED CARE includes post-hospital services which require a registered nurse or therapist to monitor your recovery and provide care which has been ordered by a physician. In most cases, skilled care may be covered by Medicare, Medicaid or other insurance. Reimbursement will be established by the receiving facility prior to acceptance.

Examples of skilled care include:

- Home health care
- Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)
- Rehabilitative hospital
- Durable medical equipment
- Medically necessary transportation

PRIVATE CARE includes post-hospital services that do not require a registered professional and are considered *custodial* by most insurance companies.

Examples of private care include:

- Bathing
- Feeding
- Shopping
- Housekeeping
- Van/cab transportation

Private care services are NOT covered by Medicare, Medicaid or most insurance companies, therefore the patient is responsible for payment. The case manager can provide more information about these services.

SELF CARE OR FAMILY CARE includes post-hospital care provided by the patient's spouse, family or significant other. Patients independent in personal care or requiring minimal assistance may be discharged to their home with self-care or to the care of their family.

WHO SHOULD I TALK TO ABOUT DISCHARGE PLANNING?

The case manager, the primary point of contact regarding discharge planning issues, will assess your needs and carefully determine what type of post-hospital care you need, if any. Depending on your insurance carrier, your case manager may be able to independently make arrangements. In some instances, however, the insurance carrier significantly influences the final decision regarding the care and services provided after discharge.

WHILE YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED, YOU CAN EXPECT YOUR CASE MANAGER TO:

- Visit and perform an initial evaluation
- Speak with you and your family members regarding discharge plans
- Collaborate with your physician, other healthcare team members and your insurance carrier
- Coordinate post-hospital care and services

NOTICE: FOR MEDICARE, MEDICAID AND CHAMPUS PATIENTS

After you are discharged, your physician may order Home Health Services for you. If your physician orders Home Health Services for you within 72 hours after you are discharged from the hospital, please notify the Discharge Planning Department at (305) 682-7121.