

Discharge Needs Assessment Factors

Actual and potential discharge planning needs of the patient/family will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- the level at which the patient and family or other caregiver understands the patient's medical condition and the reason for hospitalization
- the patient/caregiver's stated expectations
- tasks the patient can/cannot accomplish as a result of their current health problems
- socio-cultural and religious practices and beliefs
- age-related issues
- language and language barriers that impact understanding the treatment/discharge plan
- physical and/or cognitive limitations
- desire and motivation to learn
- emotional and mental status
- financial resources available to assist with discharge needs
- social support systems available to assist patient/family/other caregiver
- level of post-hospital care needs (e.g., acute, intermediate, long term)
- nature and complexity of post-hospital care needs (e.g., patient safety, infection control)
- impact of patient's illness on lifestyle of family or other caregiver and necessary interventions
- availability and accessibility of adequate housing
- access to transportation
- readiness/availability of family or other caregiver to assist with care needs of patient at home.
- availability of community or other healthcare resources to assist with care
- need for special equipment, supplies, or medication
- need for monitoring agents (i.e., CPS, police hold)