

<b>UTMB NURSING PRACTICE STANDARDS</b> <b>POLICY -1.7 Discharge/Transfer Criteria</b>	x:\...admin\1-7-2.adm <b>Policy 1.7.2</b> Page 1 of 5
<b>1.7.2 Discharge/Transfer Criteria for the BBU</b>	<b>Reformatted: 10/03/94</b> <b>Revised: 04/23/10</b>

## Discharge/Transfer Criteria for the Blocker Burn Unit (BBU)

### Audience

This document is intended for all healthcare providers.

### Policy

Discharge planning will be initiated upon admission to the BBU. During the patient's hospital course, the Burn Team will be briefed and discharge plans updated. Prior to discharge, the team will formalize and initiate discharge.

Discharge orders are to be written by the medical staff.

Patients will be discharged from the unit only with the approval of the BBU attending physician. To qualify for discharge from the unit a patient must:

1. Require no invasive monitoring.
2. Require no ventilatory support.
3. Be able to satisfy caloric needs without continuous feeding.

### Discharge Procedure

Responsibility	Action
<b>Attending Physician</b>	Approves discharge in collaboration with the Medical Director.
<b>BBU Nurse</b>	Provides specific information to the burn patient and/or family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any medication that may be prescribed will be explained to the patient and/or responsible family member.</li> <li>• A personalized exercise program both written and verbal, will be explained to the patient and/or family members by the nurse, physical therapist, and/or occupational therapist.</li> <li>• A personalized program outlining brace, splint care, and activities of daily living, both written and verbal, will be explained to the patient by the nurse and occupational therapist.</li> <li>• Continued support with respect to social reentry will be performed by the nurse, psychology, psychiatry and social services.</li> </ul>

<b>UTMB NURSING PRACTICE STANDARDS</b> <b>POLICY -1.7 Admission, Transfer, Discharge Criteria</b>	x:\...admin\1-7-2.adm	<b>Policy 1.7.2</b> Page 2 of 5
<b>1.7.2 Discharge/Transfer Criteria for the BBU</b>	<b>Reformatted:</b>	<b>10/03/94</b> <b>Revised:</b>
		<b>04/23/10</b>

**Discharge Procedure, continued**

<b>BBU Nurse, continued</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the burn wound is still open, the nurse will provide written and verbal instructions on proper wound care and infection control. Supplies necessary for wound care will be assembled by the nursing staff. The family members and/or patient must demonstrate required skills successfully to the nurse, have appropriate home health services in place, or schedule tub room visits for dressing changes prior to discharge.</li> <li>• If the patient is still colonized with a resistant organism, the patient and family teaching will be done regarding any special treatment or precautions necessary.</li> <li>• Documentation on the UTMB discharge form shall include: time and date of discharge, clinic appointment date and time, any instructions and supplies given to the patient, and by whom the instructions were given.</li> </ul> <p>3. Insures that all relevant departments are informed of final discharge: care management, pulmonary, occupational and physical therapy, and dietary therapy.</p> <p>All unused medication and supplies are to be returned for credit.</p>
<b>Social Worker</b>	<p>The Social Worker, as part of the Burn Team, will assess the need and initiate referrals to appropriate visiting or public health nursing in a home care program.</p>
<b>Health Unit Coordinator</b>	<p>Disassembles patient chart and sends to Health Information Management.</p>

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<b>1.7.2 Discharge/Transfer Criteria for the BBU</b>	<b>Reformatted:</b>	<b>10/03/94</b> <b>Revised:</b>
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## Transfer Procedure

Transfer of a patient from BBU to another unit may be required to allow admission of a patient with higher acuity. Such transfers will occur only after consultation with the attending physician. If the patient is to be discharged from a unit other than BBU, the BBU nurse is responsible for discharge teaching, in conjunction with other members of the Burn Team.

Responsibility	Action
BBU Nurse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notifies the receiving patient care area of the transfer and gives a progress report to the receiving registered nurse. The report should include: diagnosis, condition, special treatment and equipment requirements.</li> <li>2. Writes a nursing transfer progress note and reviews all care plans.</li> <li>3. Ensures that the receiving unit is notified immediately prior to the physical transfer.</li> <li>4. Ensures safe transfer of the patient and updates receiving registered nurse of any changes in the patient's condition and/or orders since the initial report.</li> <li>5. Makes sure all available patient records accompany the patient at the time of transfer.</li> <li>6. Insures that all patient supplies are sent with patient.</li> </ol>