

Discharge Procedures

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1. Introduction

- Discharge is the formal process of releasing a patient from hospital care.
- Good discharge planning ensures safe continuity of care at home.

2. Discharge Planning

- Begin planning early, ideally from admission.
- Assess the patient's readiness and home support needs.
- Involve the patient, family, and healthcare team.

3. Patient Education

- Explain medications, including dose, timing, and side effects.
- Give clear instructions on wound care, activity, and diet.
- Advise on warning signs that require medical attention.

4. Documentation and Referrals

- Prepare a discharge summary for the patient and other providers.
- Arrange follow-up appointments and referrals as needed.

5. Final Checks

- Confirm transport and that belongings and prescriptions are ready.
- Ensure the patient understands their care plan before leaving.

6. Summary

- Discharge procedures combine early planning, patient education, documentation, and follow-up to ensure safe transition from hospital to home.