

Preventing hospital readmissions



Tips to reduce the chances of an unplanned readmission

Post Discharge



Follow-up Appointments

Keep open appointments so your office can see patients within 7 days.



Medication Management

Ask your patient to bring all medications they were taking pre-hospitalization and any new ones they are supposed to be taking after discharge (including over-the-counter, pills, liquids, topicals, vitamins and supplements).



Discharge Summary

Obtain the discharge summary (or ask the patient to bring a copy) to help with continuity of care.

During the Visit



Medications

Reconcile medications and ask the patient and/or caregiver to describe the new medication regimen back to you. Document their understanding of the medication plan.



Labs/Tests

Address all follow-up tests and lab results ordered prior to discharge, and provide appropriate interventions as needed.

Next Steps



Confirm the Ws

The patient should know with **whom**, **when**, **why** and **what** happens next for any upcoming appointments.



Visit Summary

Provide a copy of the visit summary to the patient to review later. Include new medications, test results, future appointments with specialists and any scheduled tests.



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