



Hospital at Home

Caregiver expectations: Preparing to care for a loved one

What does it mean to be a caregiver in the IU Health Hospital at Home program?

A caregiver is a crucial part of a patient's support team in the IU Health Hospital at Home program. As a caregiver, you commit to assisting the patient and will be responsible for the list of tasks below. **If you have any questions or concerns, please call your IU Health Hospital at Home support team at 317.962.0827, available 24/7.**

General caregiver responsibilities

- Stay in the home with the patient for the first 48 – 72 hours of care (caregiver may leave for essential needs like medication, food, etc.)
- Assist with toileting/bathing, as needed
- Identify/understand signs and symptoms, outlined in patient education material, that need escalated to the care team
- Maintain open communication with the care team by answering all calls and relaying any concerns or questions to the care team via **317.962.0827**

Able to obtain medications for the patient

- Receiving any prescribed medications delivered from IU Health Pharmacy
- Obtaining medications from preferred retail pharmacy (e.g., CVS, Walgreens)

Visits/Vitals

- Patient and caregiver agree to in-home visits by the care team, as deemed necessary by your IU Health Hospital at Home provider
- Ensure patient accurately obtains vital signs as scheduled

Ensure the home is safe for the IU Health Hospital at Home care team members

- Agrees not to use or sell recreational/illicit drugs in the home for the duration of admission to the IU Health Hospital at Home program
- Agrees to store weapons, unloaded, in a locked case for the duration of admission to the IU Health Hospital at Home program
- Agrees to placing freely moving home pets in another room or crate during in-home visits by the IU Health Hospital at Home care team
- If the patient is on supplemental oxygen:
 - Able to fit the equipment in the home
 - Agrees not to smoke cigarettes or other substances around patient while using supplemental oxygen
 - Agrees to follow oxygen safety as outlined in patient education (traveling with oxygen and using oxygen at home)



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After the IU Health Hospital at Home program

Please be aware that a follow-up visit with the primary care provider will be made while in the IU Health Hospital at Home program. The patient is expected to attend the appointment, typically within 7 – 14 days of discharge from the IU Health Hospital at Home program, or as instructed.

The patient and caregiver will return all IU Health Hospital at Home equipment to IU Health.

If the plan of care is not followed as prescribed or the home environment poses a risk to an IU Health team member, the IU Health Hospital at Home care team has the right to discontinue hospital at home services and/or transfer the patient to an appropriate level of care.



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