A Comparison of the **Caregiver** Experience: Hospital at Home vs Bricks & Mortar*



	Hospital at Home Caregiver Experience	Bricks & Mortar Hospitalization Caregiver Experience
Time Investment	 May take time off of work to be with loved one at home if you wish No travel required; team comes to you 	 May take time off of work to be with loved one in the hospital if you wish Spend time traveling to/from or in the hospital
S Cost	No additional cost anticipated	 Travel expenses: tolls + parking, public transit, or taxi Incidentals (e.g. meals on the go)
Convenience	 Advance notice of visits allows you to plan your day and be present for important conversations Home medications can easily be reviewed by in-home providers Medical equipment or technology may take up space in the home 	 Visits curtailed by hospital policies, including limited visiting hours Cell phone usage may be curtailed by hospital policies Remember to pack, carry, and keep track of any personal items brought from home for you or your loved one Carry lists or bags of medicines to the hospital to have clinicians review them
Comfort	 Sleep in your own bed while also being close to your loved one overnight Must be okay with the care team operating in the home and visiting regularly Enhanced privacy; no other staff, patients, or families nearby who may overhear clinical discussions 	 Limited seating available in patient rooms; or, sit in a common waiting room Sleep in chair or recliner if permitted to stay the night Privacy may be difficult to maintain in crowded units or shared rooms
Food	Eat your choice of food. If you wish, provide home-cooked meals for your loved one	Bring food from home or buy food from cafeteria or nearby restaurants
Involvement	 Observe and participate in care visits as desired, in between other obligations Opportunity to be present with your family member throughout the day and night Perform direct care tasks as you choose 	 Generally not involved in direct care tasks Rounding by care team may not align with your visit, difficult to know when the doctor or other providers will be present, and they may not be able to return May not be permitted to stay overnight

^{*} This chart assumes the caregiver lives with the patient