



***Discharge  
Information for  
Inpatients of the  
Bon Secours  
Hospital Glasnevin***

***Short Term***

As next of kin or main carer, the Bon Secours Hospital would like to recommend guidelines in arranging the type of care needed for your relative. There are many questions that you will need to answer so that you can ensure the appropriate level of care is arranged.

The first area to consider is where the patient will be discharged to. If it is felt that they will be able to manage at home you need to consider:

- Who lives with the patient?
- If the patient does live with somebody, are there any issues at present such as, that person is also receiving support from the Public Health Nurse and other community services.
- What services may the patient require?
- What services are in place at the moment for the patient?
- Will adjustments need to be made to current living conditions? This could involve:

- Installation of a stair/chair lift.
- Home oxygen installation/portable oxygen.
- Hospital Bed.
- Shower/Toilet facilities.
- Requirement of a commode.
- Requirement of a wheelchair.
- Requirement of a hoist

It is very important to identify any needs as soon as it is possible as the ordering and placement of equipment and services can take a number of weeks/months to implement. **Due to this delay some services may not be in place on discharge.**

***Services provided via the PHN:***

1. The Nursing team will arrange referral to the Public Health Nurse (PHN).
2. You will then liaise with a PHN and make the necessary arrangement for discharge.
3. Early intervention is vital to reduce stress on yourself and your relative.

## **Home Care Package:**

Home care packages vary depending on the patients needs – in some cases there may be a greater emphasis on home care assistants, while other packages may require a greater level of therapy or nursing care.

- A home care package can also be offered to people who are already using existing core services, such as home helps, but need more assistance to continue to live in the community.
- If your relative is assessed and requires additional services to those already available through community services, you may be referred for a home care package by your PHN.

The decision to allocate a home care package is based on:

1. Assessment of needs of the individual
  2. Identification of any needs not being met by mainstream community services
  3. Appropriateness of care in the community in the individual case.
- The PHN will order relevant equipment. This can take a few weeks to order and

sometimes may not be in place on discharge.

- Referrals to occupational therapists and the physiotherapist for follow up treatment in the community if deemed necessary.
- The PHN can also help you gain information on Day Care Services provided in your local area. For further information on this you can contact your local health centre or log onto [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) and follow the link *Older People Services*.
- Meals on Wheels can also be organised by your PHN if deemed appropriate.
- Home help can also be arranged by your PHN, a contribution may have to be made towards this.

Other Private Home Care services that you may wish to contact are listed below:

These companies provide services such as personal hygiene care, light house keeping, meal preparation, shopping etc.

Home Instead – [www.homeinstead.ie](http://www.homeinstead.ie) or  
189093013

Comfort Keepers – [www.comfortkeepers.ie](http://www.comfortkeepers.ie) or  
1850818100

Clontarf Home care services – 01 8539511

Fingal Home Care – [www.fingalhomecare.ie](http://www.fingalhomecare.ie)  
or 01-8401886

Bluebird Care – [www.bluebird.iw](http://www.bluebird.iw) or 01-  
8408222

A full list of nationwide service providers can  
be found at

[www.retirementservices.ie/homecare](http://www.retirementservices.ie/homecare).

## **Do you need to involve private nursing agencies?**

There are different private nursing agencies nationwide but we have provided contact details for two nursing agencies.

-Nurse-on-Call- 01 4965199

-Medical Recruitment

Specialists- 01 6146063

## **Do you need to apply for a medical card?**

To apply for a medical card or to find out if your relative qualifies for this please contact your local health centre or access the HSE website as mentioned above. You can also apply for a doctor's visitation card. Your local pharmacy would also be able to provide you with details on how to apply for the drug payment scheme.

## **Short-term convalescence**

If the patient's Consultant feels that the patient would benefit from convalescence for 2 weeks prior to going home, he can issue a letter authorising this stay. All private healthcare insurance companies have a list of approved nursing homes. However shortfalls in cost may be significant, up to 120 euro per day. Patient must travel from the hospital directly to the nursing home to be eligible for this type of stay.

If you decide to become a full time carer for your family member you will find the Carers Association a very helpful resource.

Respite care can also be arranged as necessary and this can be arranged via your GP or PHN. There is also a respite care grant available and you can apply for this via your local tax office.

*We appreciate that everyone's circumstances are different and some of the information given to you may not apply to you and your relative.*

### **Useful contacts:**

[www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)

[www.vhi.ie](http://www.vhi.ie) or 1850444444

[www.hibernianavivahealth.ie](http://www.hibernianavivahealth.ie) or 1850717717

[www.quinnhealthcare.ie](http://www.quinnhealthcare.ie) or 1890 89 1890

[www.carersireland.com](http://www.carersireland.com) or 1800240724