

If you have been admitted to the hospital, chances are that you'll be seen by a Hospitalist. As a result, you may have questions like:

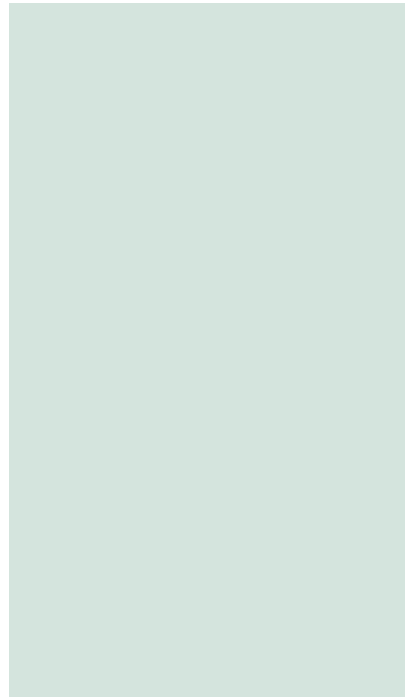
- How Does the Hospitalist Communicate with my Primary Care Physician?
- How Often Will a Member From the Hospitalist Team See me?
- Will I See the Same Hospitalist Every Day?
- How Can My Loved Ones Get Updates About My Condition?
- When Will I Be Able to Talk to My Hospitalist?
- How Do Specialists Work with the Hospitalist?
- What Happens When I Am Discharged?

Let's start with..

## What is a Hospitalist?

Hospitalists are providers who will act as your primary care physician only while you are in the hospital. In some cases, your doctor has asked us to take care of you while you are in the hospital based on our training and experience. After you are discharged from the hospital, you will be cared for by your primary doctor.

Your Hospitalist for this stay is



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR HOSPITAL STAY



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## How does the hospitalist communicate with my primary care physician?

We will let your doctor know that you have been admitted to the hospital. During your hospital stay, if there is a serious change in your condition, we will let your doctor know about it. We also will contact your doctor when you are discharged and send him or her a report about your hospital stay, including important test results and any change in your medications.

## How often will a member from the hospitalist team see me?

Your hospitalist will see you at least once a day, and more often if necessary. He or she usually starts visiting patients in the morning and continues throughout the afternoon. Because of changes in patients conditions, the hospitalists may not be able to tell you when you will be seen each day. However, you can be assured that your hospitalist is receiving updates about your condition and your test results and is working with your nurse and other doctors in your care.

## Will I see the same hospitalist every day?

Since the hospitalists work as a team to provide 24/7 patient care, you may be seen by different doctors during your hospitalization. We will do our best to have the same provider see you for as long as possible. If a new provider from CMH takes over your care, they will already know about your condition from reading your chart and learning about your condition from your previous hospitalist.

## How can my loved ones get updates about my condition?

Your hospitalist understands that your family and friends are concerned about you and may have questions about your care. We kindly request you choose someone to represent you so we can speak to that person specifically. We will then be able to answer their questions and provide them updates, either in person or over the phone.

## When will I be able to talk to my hospitalist?

Your hospitalist will be available to speak with you all day and will answer your specific questions about your care. At night, a member of our team will be here for any emergencies or urgent needs only.

## How do specialists work with the hospitalist?

Depending on your condition, your hospitalist may discuss your care with a specialist, such as a cardiologist or gastroenterologist. If you already see a specialist at this hospital, he or she may be asked to help with your care. Your hospitalist will only consult a specialist if your care requires additional expertise or procedures related to the reason you were admitted.

## What happens when I am discharged?

Your hospitalist will decide when you are ready to be discharged and leave the hospital. We will work with your case manager and/or social worker to coordinate your care, whether you go home or need further rehabilitation at another facility. We will send a report to your primary care doctor and provide you with prescriptions if you need any new medications. We will help you make an appointment with your doctor soon after you are discharged. If you don't have a primary care doctor, we will help you find one.

**FRESH CARE.**

**DELIVERED DAILY.**