PATIENT SAFETY TIPS





Speak Up!

Don't be afraid to ask questions if you have doubts or concerns. This will allow your healthcare providers an opportunity to better assist you. We want you to understand your treatment plan and why we have chosen it for you.





Medication Safety

When you receive a prescription:

- Make sure you know what it is for and what the side effects may be.
- Make sure it is the right medication and the right dose.

Make sure your doctor knows:

- What allergies or problems you have had with medications in the past.
- All the medications you are taking including prescriptions, over-the-counter medications you bought at a store, vitamins, and herbal remedies.

Make sure your caregivers know:

 All the medications you are taking – including prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins and herbal remedies.

Fall Prevention

- Keep a telephone, light source and bedpan or urinal within your reach at the bedside
- Keep walkers, canes or other assistive devices close by for easy access
- Remove clutter in the areas where you expect to be walking
- Ask for assistance when you need to go from the bed to the chair or bathroom
- If oxygen or other equipment is in use, ask for assistance before getting up
- Be careful of pets and small children
- Move slowly and carefully





Other Helpful Tips

Understand Your Results

If you have a laboratory test, ask about the results. If they do not seem right to you, speak to your doctor about them.

Ask Questions

Write down questions for your doctor before your visit and think about bringing a friend or family member with you. It's your health – if you have questions, don't be afraid to ask them.

Involve Your Loved Ones

Keep your loved ones informed about your care plan. You can even ask a family member to assist you in understanding and carrying out your care plan.

Don't Pass It On

Each year, many lives and millions of dollars are lost due to the spread of infections. Always remind friends, family and especially healthcare providers to wash and sanitize their hands before coming into direct contact with you.

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