



## Patient Discharge Instructions Template Updates

On **Monday, May 13**, the **Patient Discharge Instructions Template** for acute and surgical areas will be updated. This revised document provides the patient easy to read instructions containing the essential information needed to promote positive patient outcomes and prevent readmissions. Content was removed or enhanced to ensure the information is accurate, appropriate, and concise.

### What has been removed and why?

- **Lay Caregiver Information/Patient Signature Lines**
  - Signatures are no longer required as confirmation that discharge instructions were provided.
    - **Document** that the patient or family member **received the instructions** in iView in the **Patient Education band**.
- **Reason for your Visit**
  - Since this content is not consistently updated, removing this section prevents inaccurate information from flowing into the document. Instead, **Your Diagnosis** will provide the reason the patient was admitted.
- **These are Your Goals**
  - Establishing patient goals is part of the ambulatory care management workflow and is rarely updated in the acute or surgical setting; therefore, it was removed from the document to avoid confusion or conflicting instructions.
- **Procedures Performed**
  - This content is inconsistently updated prior to discharge in the acute or surgical areas and if documented in a location other than the Procedure History component, it does not flow into the patient instructions.
    - To ensure an accurate updated EHR, continue to **update the Procedures using the Histories component**.
- **Emergency Awareness Tips**
  - This content often provided information that conflicted with provider instructions; therefore, was removed to avoid confusion.

- **Problems**
  - Content can be quite lengthy depending on a patient's history, this section was removed to reduce the "clutter." The **Your Diagnosis** section will provide the information as to why the patient was admitted.
- **Test Results**
  - Patients are now being directed to the Patient Portal or provider for test results.
    - See **Test Performed/Pending Enhancement** below.
- **Someone will Contact You Regarding These Appointments**
  - This information will now flow to the **You Need to Schedule the Following Appointments** section.
- **The Following Treatments have been Arranged for You**
  - The information in this section was often incorrect because it does not pull new treatments for this visit.

## What Content has been Enhanced?

- **Test Performed/Pending**
  - This content now directs the patient to the Patient Portal for test results and includes a QR Code for easy access to the patient portal.
- **Your Care Team**
  - This content has been updated to include the *Consulting Provider* relationship and the *PCP address and phone number*.
- **Pending Pathology Results**
  - This new section moved content from Pending Results, providing an easy-to-read list of pending pathology.
- **This Is Your Medications List**
  - This content has moved to the end of the document and **will print as a separate page** allowing patients to have an updated medication list to place in their purse or wallet.

Clinical Informatics – Please share this information with **All Inpatient and Surgical/Procedural Clinical Staff (RNs, Providers, and Care Management)** and make this a topic of discussion in upcoming rounding.

*Behavioral Health: This information **does not** affect behavioral health caregivers.*

[Please direct any questions to the Clinical Informatics team using this link.](#)