

Discharge Planning

The following points should be considered essential to comprehensive discharge planning, and are particularly important for patients from diverse cultural backgrounds. Further information is available in the Discharge section of the *Guidelines to Practice*.

- ④ Do you use an interpreter where necessary to facilitate communication about discharge planning?
- ④ Do you start discharge planning as early as possible in the hospitalisation period?
- ④ Do you consider the patient's medical and non-medical (social) needs?
- ④ Do you employ a multidisciplinary approach involving a range of health professionals?
- ④ Do you allow patients and their families considerable self-determination in the process of planning for their care and needs?
- ④ Do you check that the patient, family/support people and care providers fully understand the proposed care plan?
- ④ Do you ensure that post-hospital care involves co-operation and collaboration between the hospital and relevant home and community care services?

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