



SKILLED CARE
PROGRAM

Medical Examination

The patient must have a Medical Examination by his/her practitioner which must include an evaluation of the prognosis for rehabilitation. A periodic examination shall be made as often as is dictated by the medical needs of the patient. The patient will assume financial responsibility for examinations. The patient's practitioner must be a member of the hospital's medical staff.

Dental

The patient can specify the dentist of their choice. If the patient has no local dentist, they will be referred to a dentist on staff if dental needs arise. The dentist will bill separately. Assistance will be provided in referrals, making appointments, and with transportation.

Medications

Medications will be dispensed by the hospital pharmacy. All medications will be given by the nurse on duty or by a practitioner. No medications will be given to the patient by relatives or visitors, nor shall medications be left in the patient's room, unless by practitioners order.

Room Assignments

Room assignments will be coordinated by

the nursing staff and/or hospital administration. Patient preference regarding location will be considered. A patient can usually transition to skilled care without a change in room assignment.

Confidentiality

All inquiries and information pertaining to the patient or prospective patient will be kept confidential. Information will be released with patient permission.

Discharge

On discharge from skilled care, all personal property must be removed within 7 days or the administration reserves the right to dispose of such property as deemed necessary and proper. The patient is financially responsible for room rent until all personal property has been removed.

Clothing and Personal Effects

Can to be marked either with a laundry pen or sewn in tags if desired. Articles which require laundering or dry cleaning shall be the responsibility of the patient. We encourage the patient to have small items around them that have special meaning-ie: pictures, clock, or a blanket from home.

Furniture or Hanging Pictures

Must be approved by hospital administration or the Skilled Care

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Coordinator prior to being brought to the hospital. Dry erase/bulletin boards and shelves are available in every patient room.

Election

It is the right and privilege of any patient to cast his ballot in any election. It shall be the responsibility of the patient to be properly registered prior to the election.

Mortuary

The patient or responsible person will indicate the mortuary of preference if needed and will be responsible for mortuary charges in the event of death.

Level of Care

The patient or responsible person agrees to accept the level of care assigned by their practitioner.

Physician Visits

Will vary from once weekly to as often as necessary by the practitioner. A practitioner is available daily for consultation with the nurses regarding patient condition, should the need arise.

Patient Care

While giving each patient the care he/she needs, we try to promote the highest level of independence and activity that the patient can safely accomplish. If able, patients are encouraged to eat with help

and to help with bathing and dressing. Walking and getting involved with activities is important to rehabilitation. Family cooperation, participation and additional encouragement are appreciated.

Activities

Activities are offered and will vary, depending on the interests of the patient. Card games, puzzles, reading material and movies are available. Most of the activities are on a one to one basis with the patient and Activity Director. Patient family members are encouraged to participate. Television sets are provided in the patient rooms. Telephones and amplifiers are available to make and receive calls. Local newspapers and radio are available. Crafts and hobbies may be brought from home.

Special Occasions

Space will be provided for family gatherings or special celebrations with advance notice. Contact the Activity Director or Social Services to arrange. Guest trays are available on request at a small cost. If patient condition permits, they may eat in the cafeteria.

Bed Hold Policy

Skilled care beds will be available as bed allocation capacity and admission screening allow. If a patient transfers to acute care from skilled status, there will be no bed hold or bed hold charges. If the patient requests skilled bed status after the acute

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care stay, an evaluation is done to ensure that a bed is available and the facility can meet the patient's needs. If a bed is not available, the Director of Social Services/ or nursing staff member will assist the patient and family in securing an appropriate care environment.

Discharge Planning

Will be done throughout the skilled care stay to ensure optimum discharge or transfer which will meet the patient's specific needs. If the patient is in disagreement with the plan for transfer or discharge, he/she has the right to appeal the action to:

The State Department of Health
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 95007
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5007
Phone: 402-471-4363

OR

The State Long Term Care Ombudsman
PO Box 95044
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5044
Phone: 1-800-942-7830

Financial

Community Medical Center will make reasonable efforts to notify the patient or responsible party of changes in the daily room charge, 10 days prior to the change.

Medicare Patients

Medicare is a federal health insurance program. It provides health service

benefits in two parts, called Part A and Part B. Part A includes in-patient hospitalization and skilled care. Part B includes out-patient services, certain medical supplies and equipment. Please consult your Medicare Handbook for covered/non-covered services.

A maximum of 100 days of skilled care can be certified by Medicare as long as skilled services are required. Medicare covers 100% of the covered services, for the first 20 days of skilled care as long as you remain eligible by requiring skilled care. For the remaining 80 days of the benefit period, if you remain eligible by requiring skilled care, you pay the Medicare co-insurance rate, currently \$133.50 per day, beginning day #21. If you have a co-insurance (Medicare Supplement), your policy may cover this amount for you.

Medicaid Patients

Medicaid is a state health insurance program, which includes skilled care. This level of care is covered as long as you remain eligible.

The primary covered services for skilled care include:

Routine services-such as your room, all meals including special diet if needed, nursing care and medical supplies.

Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Respiratory Therapy, Oxygen, Lab, X-Ray, EKG and Medical Social Services.

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Non-covered services include:

Private duty nurses, practitioner services (practitioner's office will bill separately), personal convenience items such as barber and beauty services, and long distance calls.

Private Pay Patients

Community Medical Center will provide the following services at the established room rate for skilled care:

Routine services-such as your room, all meals including special diet if needed, nursing care, medical supplies and Medical Social Services.

Other services not included:

Personal convenience items such as barber and beauty services, long distance phone calls.

Practitioner services (Practitioner's office will bill separately), medications, oxygen, respiratory therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, laboratory tests, X-Ray and other diagnostic tests.