

Hospitalist Program - Patient FAQs

Q. Why is a hospitalist caring for me?

- A.** Many primary care doctors choose to use hospitalists to take care of their hospitalized patients. This gives you the benefit of being cared for by a physician who is entirely focused on the care and safety of hospitalized patients, and who is available in the hospital throughout the day.

Additionally, this enables your primary care doctor to be more available to you in the office, rather than trying to go back and forth between the office and the hospital.

Q. How does the hospitalist program work?

- A.** The hospitalist in charge of your care will see you every day to coordinate and direct your care while you are in the hospital. This doctor is available to you and your family to answer questions and discuss your care.

Hospitalists at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center work at the hospital full time to provide your care and if necessary will consult other doctors to participate in your care as well.

Your hospitalist will make arrangements for any prescriptions that are needed at discharge. You may be asked to make an appointment with your primary care doctor or other doctors soon after discharge.

Since hospitalists do not have a practice outside of the hospital, you will not have an appointment to see the hospitalist again after discharge. You can contact them after discharge if you have any questions regarding your hospital stay.

Q. Why are residents, interns, and medical students involved in my care?

- A.** Englewood Hospital has an internal medicine residency program as well as Mount Sinai medical students who are often part of the health care team. The medical residents are physicians who have completed their medical school training and are preparing for certification in internal medicine.

Our hospitalists have faculty appointments at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and have an active role in teaching and supervising the residents and students. This ensures thoughtful, efficient, quality care. Patients often benefit from the extra effort and attention provided by residents and students.

Q. What is the relationship between the hospitalist and my primary care physician?

- A.** The two doctors can work together. Your primary care physician can provide information about your past health history to the hospitalist, and the two doctors can discuss any significant findings or events during your hospitalization. At the time of your admission and discharge, the hospitalist can provide a detailed report of findings and treatment plans that can be sent to your

primary physician.

When you are discharged, you will return to the care of your primary care doctor. Please provide us with the name and contact information for your primary care doctor.

Q. What if I don't have a primary care physician?

A. Not for categorical interns. Preliminary year PGY I residents have 2 months of elective time. Electives are also offered during the second and third years.

Q. How can I contact a hospitalist?

A. If you would like to speak to one of the hospitalists or residents while you are in the hospital please ask your nurse to page the doctor. After being discharged, you may reach us by mail. Please address correspondence to:

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