

PROVIDER LEVEL	PATIENT LEVEL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verify, on admission, the list of the patient's medications with the person responsible for the medication management. ▪ Educate the patient or the caregiver, on discharge, about pertinent information related to the patient's discharge medications (include the person responsible for the medication management). ▪ Explain in detail the discharge instructions. Include documentation written in the patient's / caregiver's appropriate language and literacy level. Be careful to avoid generic statements on discharge instructions, i.e., resume all medications and see your physician (be specific). ▪ Document the date and time of the last dose for each medication given and the date and time for the next dose. Notify the patient / caregiver / provider what medications will be required for the rest of the day. ▪ Coordinate referrals to community organizations if the patient is unable to pay for prescriptions and healthcare supplies. ▪ Confirm availability of the patient's medication and supplies with the patient / caregiver / provider prior to hospital discharge. ▪ Fax prescriptions to the patient's pharmacy to prevent delays in obtaining prescriptions. ▪ Stress the importance of seeing the physician within 1-2 weeks of the patient's discharge. Provide physician contact information if necessary (including address and phone number). ▪ Identify primary contacts at both the hospital and the post-acute setting to facilitate easy communication concerning patient care and medication management. ▪ Avoid late afternoon / evening discharges; communicate early with the physician to assess patient discharge needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider using a Personal Health Record (PHR) to keep track of all your health information and current medications. Keep your PHR with you at all times. ▪ Talk to your physician before starting or discontinuing any medication. ▪ Avoid breaking pills in half. If your physician recommends splitting pills, break only <i>scored</i> pills. Split one pill at a time and take the pieces on consecutive days. This will ensure that within a two-day period, you are taking an accurate dose. Do not break tablets or capsules that are not scored. ▪ Do not combine medications in a single bottle. Finish one medication bottle before starting the new medication bottle. ▪ Prepare for your physician's appointment. Write down your questions prior to leaving home. ▪ Take your discharge paperwork, including current medication list, to your physician appointment. ▪ Ask your physician questions; if you don't feel comfortable, take someone with you to help ask questions and write down physician information and instructions. ▪ Update your medication list with all changes from the physician appointment. ▪ Order all medications from the same pharmacy to prevent duplication (brand name vs. generic) and possible food and drug interactions. ▪ Clarify any questions you may have with the pharmacist. Read and understand the medication label; verify that you received all your prescribed medications before leaving the pharmacy. ▪ Never share your pills or take medications that have not been prescribed by your physician.