

Discharge Planning: Common Questions for the Rehab Team During Covid

For those with families in the hospital or skilled nursing facilities, the Covid 19 Pandemic has hit especially hard. With the inability to visit and care for loved ones, many family members are finding themselves unprepared when it is time for them to return home. Oakley Home Access has put together a list of questions to ask the Rehab Team before discharge to ensure a safe and happy transition.

Is the patient utilizing a wheelchair at this time? Do we think they will be utilizing a wheelchair upon discharge home? Follow up questions:

- Transport chair, manual wheelchair, or power wheelchair?
- Rim to rim width?
- Can the patient assist with propelling the wheelchair?

Is the patient ambulating at this time? Follow up questions:

- What type of device is used? Straight cane, front wheeled walker, quad cane, four wheeled walker?

Is the patient working on or ambulating stairs at this time/ upon discharge home? If yes:

- How many stairs?
- Is the patient using unilateral or bilateral handrails?

Are staff members using an electric patient lift of any type for functional transfers? Follow up to clarify which type of lift:

- Sit to stand lift?
- Hoyer Lift?



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Can the patient sit at the edge of the bed unsupported (how is their “sitting balance”)?

What is the hospital bed height set at for ideal functional transfers?

Is the patient utilizing the bed rail to enter/exit the bed?

Is the patient utilizing a bedside commode?

- **Height of commode?**

Is seated bathing equipment recommended upon discharge home? Follow up to clarify type of equipment required:

- **Bath stool**
- **Bath Chair**
- **Tub Transfer bench - manual**
- **Tub Transfer bench - sliding, swiveling (offers more support and assistance)**

Is home care arranged or being arranged by the facility?

Does the individual require assistance with functional transfers at this time?

- **If yes, are they a “one person” or “two person” assist?**