

Your Healthcare Team Meeting

Talking with the health care team is important when you or someone you love is in the hospital. The intensive care unit (ICU) is a busy place. If you stay in the ICU for several days, it may help to set up a meeting to talk with your healthcare team. This meeting, with you, your family and the healthcare team will help everyone know what to expect and how to plan. If you are in the ICU for only a short time, you may not need a meeting.

Goals for the Patient/Family Meeting

- To talk about your condition
- To talk about treatment goals
- To talk about you and your family's needs
- To make sure you and your family understand treatment goals and choices
- To give you a chance to talk about your concerns

Who Should Come To The Meeting

Of course, you will be there, if you are able. Anyone you want to be involved in planning your treatment and making decisions about your care should come. Members of your health care team will be there. This may include your doctors, nurse, care manager, social worker, chaplain or anyone who has helped with your care.

When The Meeting Will Happen

The social worker (SW) or clinical nurse specialist (CNS) will come talk to you about setting a time that is best for everyone. The clinical nurse specialist is an advanced practice nurse who helps direct patient care in the ICU. The social worker is trained to help with discharge and financial needs. We will try to set a meeting during the first week you are in the ICU. If you are transferred out of the ICU before your meeting, it will be cancelled.



What to Expect During The Meeting

First, everyone will introduce themselves. The goals of the meeting will be reviewed. The doctors will explain your medical case. They will talk about possible treatments, expected outcomes, benefits and problems. Other team members may add things about your case and care.

We will try to answer all your questions. Everyone will get a chance to speak. If you are not able to speak for yourself, a person you have chosen to make health care decisions for you will talk to us about what treatments you want done.

This meeting should only last about 15 minutes. It will take place in a quiet, private place on the unit. It may happen in your room, if you can attend.

Getting Ready For The Meeting

We want to be sure your questions get answered. You can help by thinking about what questions you want to ask. Write your questions on the back of this page. Bring them to the meeting.

Your Questions

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Please ask for more paper if you need it.