

FACT SHEET: STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE HOSPITALIZATION

1. PRINT copy of TFH **COVID EARLY TREATMENT GUIDE**. https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/

2. PLAN early out-patient treatment options. Arrange to have medications and supplies in place before you get sick.

3. PREPARE Covid-specific Healthcare Power of Attorney (HCPOA) for each family member. <u>Make it effective immediately when</u> patient is ill, not just if patient is incapacitated. Examples:

- Decide on whether to allow use of remdesivir
- Decide on whether to allow intubation/ventilator

3. CHECK your state law rights of family if there is no HCPOA.

4. DEMAND ACCESS to PATIENT MEDICAL RECORDS and Hospital's COVID treatment protocol. POA or family member sign HIPAA form to access patient portal for medical records, fax to hospital, <u>make sure</u> to obtain log-in information. NOTE: if hospital refuses to provide electronic access or release records, review HIPAA which defers to state law regarding rights to access medical records. ENGAGE ATTORNEY ASAP to send demand letter and seek court order to force access to medical records.

5. DEMAND ACCESS TO PATIENT FOR POA/FAMILY. Engage ATTORNEY ASAP to send demand letter and seek court order to force access to PATIENT. If denied, seek court order allowing access. FILE report to state agency to investigate protection of vulnerable adult. Consider report to **Sheriff** for criminal investigation and help to gain access.

6. EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR HOME TREATMENT. Contact *Info@TruthForHealth.org* to engage our COVID Care Strategy Team to assist with strategies to assist home care resources: hospice, O2 vendors, home health agencies, TeleMedicine physicians/nurse practitioners. Arrange ambulance transport, backup generator for O2 equipment.

7. DEMAND discharge to home hospice/home care when all aspects of care plan are in place. Every hospital has a discharge process. Find out what it is ahead of time and plan carefully.



8. PREPARE for HOSPITAL DISCHARGE: Prepare to deal with hospital obstruction to discharge of patient.

- Prepare to deal with hospital threats "You will die if you leave." It is YOUR choice whether to risk death in hospital or risk death at home with family. You have right to decide your course of action.
- Patients have absolute right to reject medical treatment and seek discharge, even if against medical advice (AMA).
- Arrange Attorney presence at hospital (i.e., ON-SITE) during discharge process. Critical for attorney to be present to avoid threats of arrest of family seeking discharge.
- Consider arranging ambulance to arrive just prior to attorney and family so there is no delay for patient transport.
- Review carefully ALL discharge documents before ANYONE signs.
- Hospital AMA forms typically have blanket release of liability for ALL claims against the hospital. DO NOT SIGN THIS. Hospitals cannot stop discharge for failure to sign their AMA forms.
- Hospice care does not mean "death care." Hospice services are *supportive, comfort care paid by most insurance.* While hospice services do not pay for *active treatment,* it is the patient's and family's right to self-pay for any added treatment services the patient may want to continue.

9. YOUR LIFE IS GOD'S GIFT. Your time on earth should be in His hands, not controlled by lack of proper care in hospitals.

Contact *Info@TruthForHealth.org* to engage our COVID Care Strategy Team for assistance. Help us support MEDICAL FREEDOM for all.