

Section: Division of Nursing

PROTOCOL

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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ED
(Scope)

TITLE: PEDIATRIC TEACHING PROTOCOL

PURPOSE: To outline the discharge teaching areas for both Pediatric and Adult patients and their respective parents and/or caregivers (as necessary).

POLICY: Discharge of an emergency department patient involves teaching the patient and the parent/caregiver (as needed) regarding Home Care Instructions. Information given to the patient/caregiver should describe activity or diet restrictions, specific homecare needs (i.e. wound care), physician follow-up, parameters which indicate the patient's condition is worsening and any recommended interventions. Additionally, instructions on any newly prescribed medication which should include dose, frequency, side effects and potential drug/food interactions.

PROCEDURE:

1. Obtain written discharge order from Emergency Department physician or attending physician.
2. Select appropriate discharge instructions and follow up in Exit-Rider based on physician order.
3. Print two identical copies of discharge instructions, review for accuracy. Staff nurse who is giving discharge instructions should sign both copies.
4. Present discharge instructions to patient and or care giver. Provide verbal instructions based on learner's developmental level that explain written instructions.
5. Provide patient and or care-giver the opportunity to ask questions.
6. Ensure patient and or care-giver understands discharge instructions through verbalization of information previously discussed.
7. Have patient and or care-giver sign copy of discharge instructions that is to remain with the patient chart.
8. Ensure patient leaves with a copy of their discharge instructions and all prescriptions.