

My Responsibilities while on HITH

- Ensure you are home at times indicated for visit to occur
- HITH patients are not to visit their GP while on a HITH program
- OH&S regulations determine that staff work in a smoke free environment
- For treatment to commence a signed consent form is required
- For night visits adequate lighting is required
- Ensure your house is easily identifiable ie easy to see number
- Pets are to be restrained in another room or outside whilst nursing visit occurs
- If it is deemed necessary you will return to hospital
- Keep all equipment provided by the hospital safe and away from any children
- Continue to take regular medications your self
- Notify the visiting nurse when your medical and/or medication supplies are getting low, so there is no delay in distribution of medications and supplies

Discharge from HITH

When the hospital doctors confirm that you no longer require hospital type care, you will be discharged from HITH. This will be explained to you and a discharge plan will be formulated with you which will include a letter from your hospital doctors to your Local Doctor ensuring a smooth continuation of your care.

Hospital In The Home (HITH)

Between 08:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 8345 1793

After Hours Contact

Phone: 8345 0349

Western Health Hospital in the Home Incorporating:

The Williamstown Hospital
Western Hospital
Sunshine Hospital
Sunbury Day Hospital

www.wh.org.au



Western Health

Together, caring for the west

Hospital In The Home (HITH)

Patient Information Brochure

Your Visit Times Will Be

AM

Afternoon

PM



Western Health

What is Hospital in the Home

Hospital In The Home (**HITH**) is an acute care service that provides care in the home that would otherwise need to be delivered within a hospital setting as an inpatient. HITH often provides an alternative to admission to hospital or an opportunity for earlier transfer home than would otherwise be possible.

As a patient of HITH you remain an inpatient of Western Health.

Who can receive HITH?

Anyone deemed medically stable by their hospital doctors to be at home and meets HITH selection criteria.

If HITH is the plan a HITH Liaison Nurse (HITH LN) will visit you in hospital to assess your needs and to discuss your medical treatment and home environment.

The HITH LN will answer any questions about your care and explain how HITH will work for you.

Your consent

Participation in HITH is voluntary, you must agree to having your care at home. If you are willing to be treated at home, you or your carer will be asked to sign a consent form before leaving the hospital for your home.

Note that the visiting HITH staff will have access to the information in your hospital patient record.

You are asked to store any medications and supplies left at your home safely. You are required to return to the hospital if advised to do so by your visiting nurse or the doctor from the hospital unit treating you.

Is there a cost to me?

No. There is no additional cost to receive care at home. Medications, dressings or equipment needed for your care will be supplied free of charge while a HITH patient.

Any ongoing costs after you have been discharged from HITH will be discussed prior to your discharge

Who provides the care?

HITH staff are on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you are able to contact someone with issues or concerns at all times in relation to your care.

The frequency and length of visits you receive are determined by your individual needs. This will be discussed with you by the HITH LN prior to you going home.

When you are at home, the HITH LN will coordinate your individual care needs. The HITH LN will communicate between your doctors and the visiting HITH staff to help ensure they all work together. If you need any further medical supplies, visiting staff will contact the HITH LN to obtain what you require.

Your observations will be recorded and assessed just as they would be in hospital and any significant changes in your condition will be communicated to your hospital doctors.

Pathology services are provided by Dorevitch Pathology.

HITH Reviews

You may be required to attend the Hospital for review in the HITH review clinic so that a hospital doctor can review your progress. The HITH LN will coordinate this with you.

What if I need to leave home before the nurse arrives?

You will be given a range of visit times during which the nurse will aim to visit.

In order to provide the best care and to ensure your safety, we do ask that you notify HITH LN if you need to leave home at any time prior to receiving your nursing care on any particular day.

What if something goes wrong?

If you are concerned about your health at any time while you are on the program you can ring and speak to a nurse.

Between 08:00am – 5:00pm

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The visiting nurse, HITH LN, in consultation with your hospital doctors, will alter your treatment should your condition unexpectedly deteriorate, become unstable or you develop a complication.

If deemed necessary due to your condition, you may need to be readmitted to hospital to continue your care.

In a Medical Emergency Dial

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and ask for an ambulance.