



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About Hospital Stays

### ***What is Derry Medical Center's Affiliation with Local Hospitals?***

Derry Medical Center utilizes all local hospitals as well as facilities in MA such as Mass General, Children's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, New England Baptist Hospital and Lahey Clinic. Choosing a hospital for a particular service is a decision made jointly by you and your physician.

### ***Will Derry Medical Center Physicians See Me in the Hospital?***

Primary Care physicians, almost categorically, do not treat patients in the hospital anymore. In-patient care is provided by the "Hospitalists" in every hospital in Southern New Hampshire and MA.

### ***What is a Hospitalist?***

A hospitalist is a physician, usually trained in primary care, whose primary specialty is treating hospitalized patients. By practicing exclusively in the hospital they are able to coordinate the use of specialists and formulate treatment plans and post-hospital care transition plans. They are onsite all day allowing more time to focus on the patient and have greater availability to the nursing staff.

### ***How Do the Derry Medical Center Physicians Work with Hospitalists?***

Pertinent information from your stay is sent to your physician at Derry Medical Center. A post hospital visit will be scheduled to review any new medications you are on and to update your treatment plan and medical records. If a hospitalist has any questions regarding your prior treatment they will call your physician for additional information.

### ***What About Specialists?***

The choice of a specialist is made by you and your physician. We are an independent practice with the freedom to refer to any specialist that you and your physician mutually agree upon. Network participation by your insurance may also be a factor.

### ***What Happens When I am Discharged from the Hospital?***

The hospitalist or a nurse will call our office to set up a "post hospital" appointment with our Patient Care Coordinator Nurse. This appointment will be approximately 30-45 minutes long and will focus on ensuring that you are feeling well after your discharge, and on updating your medications from your hospitalization. We will confirm any appointments you may have with outside services such as rehab, physical therapy or specialist appointments. The Patient Care Coordinator will also make an appointment for you with your Primary Care Provider at Derry Medical Center within a week or two once the information about your hospital stay is updated and documented in your medical record.