

SOCIAL ADMISSIONS CLINICAL **GUIDELINE**

ED OBS UNIT - NYC H+H KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL **CENTER**

PURPOSE AND ESCALATION

To create a process where patients who do not meet medical necessity for admission and are admitted for unsafe discharge or for “social admissions”. In contrary to the general exclusions of the observation unit, patients who are not ambulatory (demented, bed bound, need extensive nursing care) and have no other medical indication for admission, are still able to be placed on observation status.

If observation attending does not think patient meets criteria for observation status, then observation attending will escalate issue through the department escalation policies.

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Pt. requires assisted living arrangements, i.e. home care
- Family requires assistance with home care needs
- Needs sub-acute rehab placement/long term care placement
- Needs to return to shelter
- High probability of care arrangement within 48 hrs.
- Requires DME (including oxygen)/medical supplies
- Needs medications requiring insurance authorizations or pre-authorization
- Unsafe discharge who does not meet medical necessity for inpatient services

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patient has acute medical condition that requires inpatient care
- Meets other general observation exclusion criteria except for inability to ambulate

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INTERVENTIONS

1. Consult Social worker, Case Manager, and Physical Therapy (these should be initiated even prior to placement into observation status)
2. Consult Home Care as needed.

DISPOSITION

Home/Long Term Care Placement:

- a. Safe discharge plan for home or Long Term Care Facility/Subacute Rehab established
- b. Placement not possible, family willing to take patient home

Admission:

- a. Inability to find appropriate placement within 48 hours and reasonable effort has been attempted to place patient with no expectation to find placement in by 72 hours.
- b. Change in pt.'s clinical status requiring inpatient hospitalization

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