This leaflet explains the process of supporting patients who no longer need acute medical care.

- Once admitted to an inpatient area in one of our hospitals you will be cared for on an acute ward until your doctors agree you are medically well enough to stop receiving acute care. **Acute care is where a patient receives active but short term treatment for a severe injury or episode of illness, an urgent medical condition or during recovery from surgery.**

- During your stay in hospital, from as early as possible, you or your relative will be offered the opportunity to be fully involved in planning your discharge and if necessary, will receive a full multi-disciplinary assessment to identify whether you need any additional support on discharge.

- If it is identified that you do not need any further support at home you will be discharged once you have stopped receiving acute medical care.

- If it is identified that you will require on-going additional support, a referral will be made to the appropriate service provider. This could include a home care package, a nursing / residential home. You /your relative/carer will be involved in this assessment process and your thoughts regarding your on going care will be taken into consideration.

- Should there be a delay to the start of your home support, care package or community based placement and you no longer require care in an acute hospital bed you will be transferred to wait in another setting whilst your service at home or in another care facility is available. This is to allow us to admit patients requiring acute care.
This will be either:-

- A discharge ward.
  The locations of these wards are at Wharfedale Hospital in Otley and Gledhow Wing and Beckett Wing at St. James’s Hospital. Unfortunately it is not possible for you to choose which of these locations you are cared for at.

- An interim (or temporary) placement in a care home while you await your home of choice.

- A transitional (short term) placement in a care home while you await a package of home care to be started.

Community Care Beds

If you require further rehabilitation or recuperation or assessment and you have been assessed that you are not yet safe in your own home, then you will be transferred to a community care bed. There are many locations throughout Leeds and we will try to place you in a location closest to your own home, though this is not always possible.

Once the appropriate placement for you to be transferred into has been identified, you and your family will be notified as to the location of the placement and you will be moved on the same day.

Further information

If you require further information please speak to the ward sister/charge nurse or discharge facilitator.