

Criteria Led Discharge

Information for parents
and guardians



Leeds children's
hospital

caring about children

You have been given this leaflet to help you understand the new discharge process called Criteria Led Discharge. It will help you prepare your child to leave the hospital and it is important we inform you of this new process, so you understand more about your child's care.

What is Criteria Led Discharge?

Criteria Led Discharge is a process that makes sure your child's discharge from hospital is not delayed and that they can safely go home or to another care setting as soon as they are medically ready.

A senior Doctor will discuss with you, the criteria (goals) that are personalised to your child's circumstances and that should be met in order for them to be discharged from hospital.

Examples of criteria that might be set include:

- ensuring that their pain is under control following a procedure;
- their blood results are within a certain range;
- Physiotherapists have assessed their mobility;
- they have had a Specialist Nurse review.

The agreed criteria will be added to your child's medical record.

The team will work with you and keep you informed about your child's progress. When all the criteria have been met, your child can be safely discharged from hospital without having to wait for another review from a senior Doctor.

Some benefits of Criteria Led Discharge are:

- It clearly outlines what must happen before your child can be discharged.
- Your child will spend less time in hospital because decisions about their discharge from hospital are made earlier in their stay.
- You have more involvement in decisions made about your child's care.

How will you know you have met the criteria?

A Registered Health Care Professional will confirm that your child has met all of the agreed criteria. If there are no outstanding issues, your child will be able to leave the hospital without seeing their senior Doctor for a final time. If there are any concerns the team will contact the child's senior Doctor to review your child's health before they go home.

Does this mean your child will not see a Doctor at all?

No. A Doctor will continue to see your child regularly throughout their hospital stay. Criteria Led Discharge means that you and the team have agreed on a set of criteria for your child. These decisions have been led by the senior Doctor. A Registered Health Care Professional will monitor that these have been met. Your child will not be discharged until all the criteria are met.

Before you leave the hospital please make sure you:

- Know when and how your child should take their medicine(s).
- Who to contact if your child does not feel well.
- Ask your child's Doctor about any GP or specialist follow-up appointments.
- Understand what home/community based support has been arranged (if applicable).

Talk with your child's Doctor

Your child's senior Doctor will discuss the criteria with you and make sure that you understand.

Develop Criteria

You and your child's senior Doctor will agree on the set of criteria that should be met before your child can be discharged.

Progress Monitored

A registered health care professional will monitor the agreed criteria and mark them as complete, once they have been met.

Discharge

Criteria have all been met. Your child can now be discharged from hospital.



What did you think of your care?

Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/nhsleedsfft

Your views matter

