



Our Mission

To improve the health status of the families and individuals
in the communities we serve.

We Care About Your Safety.

Together at JPS Health Network, we want to partner with you and your family in your care. We approach safety as a team and would like to invite you to join us as active team members. Through working together we can decrease the risk of injury and make your visit with us as safe as possible.

Here is how you can help us make your visit with us a safe and positive experience:

- Correct Information- Make sure your name and birth date are correct on your I.D. bracelet.
- Identify yourself- Wear your I.D. bracelet at all times and let someone know if it comes off.
- Make sure all staff checks your I.D. bracelet before any procedure, lab or medication.
- Ask questions- It is your body and your right, so ask if you do not know or understand.

***If English is not your primary language or you are hearing-impaired, ask for an interpreter.**

Participating in Your Care

- Talk with your doctor and nurse about your care.
- Make sure that you understand and agree with the plan of care.
- Ask about your treatments and their purpose. Question anything that is different or that you do not understand.
- Let your nurse or doctor know if you are having pain. Pain can be controlled.
- Take notes or have a family member or friend listen with you when your care is talked about.
- Select a family member to relate with the health care team and to inform family and friends.

JPS, in recognizing our mission to promote health in our communities, views the unhealthy side effects of smoking and offers a smoke-free facility. Smoking is prohibited in the hospital, since this puts patients, visitors and staff at risk. If you are a smoker and wish to quit, speak with your doctor or nurse about available options, such as a patch.

Medication Safety

Know your medications:

- Know the prescriptions that you are currently taking.
- Include over-the-counter medications (Aspirin, Tylenol, etc.).
- Vitamins
- Herbal Products
- Cultural Remedies

Know your allergies and reactions (Medication, Food, Latex).

- Ask about your medicine (what they, what they do, what to expect and what to report).
- Make sure staff checks your I.D. bracelet and asks your name, date of birth, and/or medical record number before administering any medicine
- Look at all medicines and if you do not know one, ASK.
- If admitted to the hospital, **DO NOT** take medications that are brought from home. Give them to the nurse or have someone take them home for you.

Fall Safety

Please ask for help when getting out of bed, especially at night. You are in an unfamiliar environment and most falls happen when patients try to get out of bed to go to the bathroom on their own.

- Have a call button in reach or let the nurse know.
- Call for help before the need is urgent.
- Have enough light for you to see.
- Wear slippers with rubber soles.
- Let staff know of spills or objects blocking the floor.
- Keep brakes locked on wheelchair when getting in and out.

Germ Safety

- Hand washing is the best way to prevent the spread of infection.
- Practice good personal hygiene.
- Let your nurse know if your gown or linen is soiled.
- Feel free to remind staff to wash their hands and/or put on gloves before examining you.
- Ask friends/family who have colds to please stay home.
- Get vaccinated, if recommended; it can help prevent the following illnesses, especially in high-risk patients, children, and the elderly:
 - Flu

- Pneumonia

Home Safety

- Alarms (Do you have them and do they work):
 - Smoke detector
 - Carbon Monoxide detector**(Change batteries once a year on a regular day, such as your birthday, so you can remember)**
- Fire Extinguisher (Do you have one and does it work)
- Fire Safety Plan
- Medical Equipment you use in your home
 - Example: Oxygen
- Smoking
 - Not in bed
 - Not with oxygen

Don't Be Afraid To Speak Up And Ask Questions.

References:

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
Johns Hopkins Hospital

If you have any safety concerns, please feel free to contact:

Michelle Rutherford, RN, MSN

Patient Safety Officer

JPS Health Network

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