



MedStar Health

MEDSTAR GEORGETOWN
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Your MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Patient Guide

Your comfort, safety, and experience are important to us.



Your Patient Guide



Table of Contents

ABOUT US.....	1
PHONE DIRECTORY/INSTRUCTIONS.....	2-3
HOSPITAL/CAMPUS MAP.....	4
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION.....	5
• <i>Getting Help in Other Languages</i>	6
PATIENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES.....	7-8
OUR PATIENT AND VISITOR CODE OF CONDUCT.....	9-10
OUTPATIENT OBSERVATION STATUS INFORMATION.....	11
YOUR TEAM.....	12-14
• <i>Your Dietary Team</i>	14
• <i>Specialty Meals for Patients</i>	14
YOUR STAY.....	15-19
• <i>Guest Meal Trays</i>	15
• <i>TV Channel Listings</i>	17
FACTS ABOUT YOUR STAY.....	20-21
• <i>Building Entrances and Access</i>	20
• <i>Parking</i>	20
• <i>Visitation Hours</i>	21
• <i>Pharmacy Information</i>	21
• <i>Mail and Notary Services</i>	21
• <i>Guest Accommodations: Hotels</i>	21
ACCOMMODATIONS AND DINING.....	22
• <i>Additional Dining Options</i>	22
ADVANCE DIRECTIVES.....	23
UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL.....	24
HOSPITAL RESOURCES.....	25-26

Key Contacts

- Main Hospital: 202-444-2000
- Food and Nutrition: 202-444-6424
- Environmental Services: 202-444-7596
- Pastoral Care: 202-444-3030
- Outpatient Pharmacy: 202-444-3772
- International Services: 202-444-1588
- Patient Advocacy and Experience: 202-444-3040

Admission Checklist

Please use this checklist as we orient you to our unit, medical services, and features within the room.

- Identifying your healthcare team
- Communicating with your medical provider
- Your whiteboard
- Your call bell
- Personal belongings
- Fall precautions
- Visitation policy



ABOUT US: Feel Confident in Your Care

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is a not-for-profit, acute-care, teaching and research hospital with 538 beds, located in Northwest Washington, D.C. Founded in the Jesuit principle of *cura personalis*, or care for the whole person, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is dedicated to focusing on the full needs of our patients and their families. This goes beyond immediate healthcare needs and extends to providing the comfort our patients and their loved ones need to heal. This philosophy empowers our associates to work together to provide holistic care in a trusting and compassionate environment.

Our hospital follows the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, as outlined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Directives can be found on the website of the [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#).

















Our centers of excellence include neurosciences, transplant, oncology, orthopedics, and gastroenterology. Along with Magnet® nurses, internationally recognized physicians, advanced research, and cutting-edge technologies, our healthcare professionals have a reputation for medical excellence and leadership.

Our highly specialized and multidisciplinary teams provide a wide range of medical and surgical services for patients with both routine and complex diseases and conditions. As we continue to follow our vision of being the trusted leader in caring for people and advancing health, we remain on the forefront of healthcare delivery with the recent opening of the Verstandig Pavilion. The Pavilion houses 31 state-of-the-art operating rooms, 32 private rooms in a modern and expanded Emergency Department, three levels of underground parking, and 156 private patient rooms designed to support patients and their loved ones. When time is of the essence, a helipad atop the Pavilion enables direct and immediate access to the appropriate point of care.



Phone Directory



-  Main Hospital: 202-444-2000
-  Environmental Services: 202-444-7596
-  Food and Nutrition: 202-444-6424
-  Gift Shop: 202-444-4181
-  Guest Services: 202-444-2352
-  International Services: 202-444-1588
-  Medical Records: 202-444-3184
-  Outpatient Pharmacy: 202-444-3772
-  Parking Office: 202-444-3802
-  Pastoral Care: 202-444-3030
-  Patient Portal Tech Support: 877-745-5656
-  Social Work/Case Management: 202-444-3750
-  Volunteer Services: 202-444-0695
-  Non-Emergent Protective Services: 202-444-3800
-  Patient Accounts: 410-933-4966 (toll-free 844-817-6087)
-  Patient Advocacy and Experience: 202-444-3040

Telephone Information/Instructions

For your convenience, every room (except for those on the NICU and Behavioral Health units) is equipped with a telephone. Your telephone number is noted on the whiteboard in your room, or can be provided to you by a member of your care team.

To place a call in area code 202, dial 9, wait for a second dial tone, then dial the desired number. To make local calls to area codes 703 or 301, dial 9, then 1, followed by the area code and number.

To make a long-distance call, dial 9, then 0 (in some cases you must dial 00), followed by the area code and number. An operator will intercept your call to obtain your credit card or home telephone number.

Cell Phones: To ensure our patients have a restful stay with us, we ask that cellphones be kept on silent or vibrate in patient care areas. In other hospital areas, please maintain a distance of at least six feet between your cell phone and any medical equipment.



Quiet Hours and Restfulness: If you would like a pair of ear plugs or an eye mask to aid with your comfort and rest while you are staying in the hospital, please inform a member of your care team and one will be provided for you. Calming audio, music, or white noise can be accessed on your TV under "Relaxation and Sleep," or you may access peaceful nature music and imagery on channels 8 or 10.



NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity). MedStar Georgetown University Hospital does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity).

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, including qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). MedStar Georgetown University Hospital provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English. If you need these services, please contact the Language Services Department at 202-444-8377.

If you believe that MedStar Georgetown University Hospital has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity), you can file a grievance with the MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Patient Experience and Advocacy Office at 202-444-3040.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint portal, available at ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf, or by mail or email at: Centralized Case Management Operations, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave. SW, Room 509F, HH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201, OCRComplaint@hhs.gov. Complaint forms are available at hhs.gov/ocr/complaints/index.html.

Our SPIRIT Values

We don't just say, "It's how we treat people." We do our best to prove it every day with every person we come into contact with, including one another. Our SPIRIT values guide our actions:



Service: We strive to anticipate and meet the needs of our patients, physicians, and coworkers.



Respect: We treat each individual—those we serve and those with whom we work—with the highest professionalism and dignity.



Patient First: We strive to deliver the best to every patient every day. The patient is the first priority in everything we do.



Innovation: We embrace change and work to improve all we do in a fiscally responsible manner.



Integrity: We communicate openly and honestly, build trust, and conduct ourselves according to the highest ethical standards.



Teamwork: System effectiveness is built on the collective strength and cultural diversity of everyone, working with open communication and mutual respect.

Getting help in other languages

American Sign Language	American Sign Language	Please point to your language. An interpreter will be provided at no cost to you.
Amharic	አማርኛ	እባክህ ወይ ቋንቋዎ ያመልክቱ። እስተርጓሚ ያለምንም ክፍያ ይቀርብልዎታል።
Arabic	العربية	سحنت اشر الي لغتك. سنوفر لك خدمة الترجمة مجاناً.
Bengali	বাংলা	আপনার ভাষা উল্লেখ করুন। আপনাল্লক ববনামূললে একজন দদাভাষী প্রদান করা হল্পব।
Chinese	中文	请指出您的语言。将向您提供免费口译服务。
French	Français	Veillez indiquer votre langue. Un interprète sera mis a votre service gratuitement.
Haitian Creole	Kreyòl Ayisyen	Tanpri montre lang ou a. Y ap bay yon entèprèt gratis pou ou.
German	Deutsch	Bitte deuten Sie auf Ihre Sprache. Ein Dolmetscher wird Ihnen kostenlos zur Verfügung gestellt.
Hindi	हिन्दी	कृपया अपनी भाषा की ओर इशारा करें। आपको हनःशुल्क एक दुभाषया प्रदान हकया जाएगा।
Igbo	Igbo	Biko ntu aka n'asusu gi. A ga-enye gi onye ntughari asusu na-akwughị gi ugwo.
Italian	Italiano	Si prega di indicare la propria lingua. Un interprete verrà messo gratuitamente a sua disposizione.
Japanese	日本語	あなたの言語を示してください。通訳者があなたに無償で提供されます。
Korean	한국어	자신의 언어를 가리켜 주세요. 통역사가 무료로 제공됩니다.
Kru (Bassa)	Bàsòò	Né wuḍu-dù m̄ pœœ kō. Wuḍu-xwiniin-mú-zà-nyò dō mu niin bé m̄ se jè pèè muè.
Persian (Farsi)	فارسی	لطفاً زبان خود را اعلام کنید. یک مترجم شفاهی رایگان برای شما فراهم خواهد شد.
Portuguese	Português	Por favor, indique o seu idioma. Um intérprete será fornecido sem nenhum custo para você.
Russian	Русский язык	Пожалуйста, укажите на Ваш язык. Переводчик будет предоставлен Вам бесплатно.
Spanish	Español	Por favor, señale su idioma. Se le proporcionará un intérprete sin costo alguno para usted.
Tagalog	Tagalog	Pakituro ang iyong wika. Ibigay sa iyo ang isang interpreter nang wala kang babayaran.
Thai	ไทย	โปรดชี้ไปที่ภาษาของคุณ เราจะจัด หาล่ามให้ล โดยไม่ลิลลค่าใซง่าย
Urdu	اردو	براہ کرم اپنی زبان کی طرف اشارہ کریں۔ آپ کو مفت مترجم فراہم کیا جائے گا۔
Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt	Vui lòng chỉ đến ngôn ngữ của quý vị. Quý vị sẽ được bố trí một thông dịch viên miễn phí.
Yoruba	Yorùbá	Jòwọ tọka sí èdè rẹ. A ó pèsè ògbifò kan fún ọ ní ọfẹ.

Language Line Dual Handset Telephones

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital offers Language Line Dual Handset Telephones staffed by trained and certified medical interpreters. For access to this resource, please ask a member of your care team for assistance.



Patient rights and responsibilities.

As a patient at this MedStar Health facility, you have the right:

- To receive considerate, respectful, and compassionate care in a safe setting, free from all forms of abuse, including verbal, mental, physical, and sexual abuse, harassment, neglect, retaliation, humiliation or exploitation from staff, students, volunteers, other patients, visitors and family members.
- To be treated without discrimination or regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, religion, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, sex, sexual orientation, sexual stereotyping, marital status, gender, gender identity or expression, language, ability to pay, or socioeconomic status. To be treated consistent with your personal values, beliefs, wishes, and/or gender identity in all activities associated with the treatment you receive.
- To have a medical screening exam and be provided stabilizing treatment for emergency medical conditions and labor.
- To have access to programs and activities provided through electronic and information technology and physical access to new or altered areas of this facility.
- To be screened, assessed, and treated for pain.
- To have a family member/representative and your doctor notified promptly of your admission to the hospital, if contact information is available.
- To participate in your plan of care. To discuss information about your medical diagnosis, condition or illness, prognosis, test results, treatment choices, and possible outcomes of care and unanticipated outcomes of care with a qualified provider, in a language and manner that you understand.
- To be told the names and jobs of the health care team members involved in your care if safety is not a concern.
- To give informed consent before any nonemergency care is provided, including the benefits and risks of the care, alternatives to the care, and the benefits and risks of the alternatives to the care.
- To consent, request, or refuse any treatment, as permitted by law, including to consent or refuse to take part in research affecting your care. If you refuse any treatment, or choose not to participate in a research study, you will continue to receive the most appropriate care the hospital may otherwise provide.
- To be provided an appropriate means of communication through auxiliary aids and services to ensure your understanding of your care when you do not speak the predominant language of the community or are visually or hearing impaired, without charge.
- To be provided a list of protective and advocacy services when needed.
- To have an Advance Directive, such as a Living Will or the appointment of a healthcare agent to speak on your behalf, to communicate your wishes regarding treatment, and to expect that your Advance Directive will be followed. To make or change your Advanced Directive while in the hospital. To not be discriminated against if you choose not to have an Advance Directive.
- To designate a person to make healthcare decisions for you, if you are unable to do so.
- To have visitors and a support person that you designate, including, but not limited to, a spouse, domestic partner (including a same sex spouse), other family member(s) or friends for emotional support, without regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or economic status during the course of your hospital stay, per hospital visitation policy, unless the visitor's presence infringes on others' rights or safety or is medically or therapeutically contraindicated, or you change your mind on who may visit.
- To designate someone to help with your care at home, if you are admitted to the hospital.
- To remain free from restraints and seclusion unless medically or behaviorally necessary to ensure a safe environment of care for you and others and to have care givers who are appropriately trained regarding the use of restraints or seclusion.
- To consent or refuse to allow pictures of you for purposes other than your care.
- To be provided privacy and confidentiality with respect to your personal identity and dignity in care discussions and treatment.
- To have your health information treated confidentially, so that only individuals involved in your care, monitoring your quality of care, or otherwise allowed by law will be allowed to access your medical record.
- To access, request to amend or receive an accounting of disclosures of your medical record, as allowed by law and in accordance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). To receive a Notice of Privacy Practices explaining these rights.
- To receive a written statement of those services that may be provided when medically necessary, and of charges for services not covered by Medicare or Medicaid.

- To be made aware that, if you are a low-income patient who lacks health insurance or whose insurance does not cover the full cost of your care, you may be eligible for this MedStar Health facility's financial assistance program that provides certain types of care free of charge or at a reduced fee.
- To be made aware of your right to appeal if you disagree with a determination that you are not eligible for the financial assistance program.
- To request an estimate of hospital charges before care is provided and as long as patient care is not impeded and receive a written explanation of your bill, regardless of source of payment.
- To know about and access hospital resources such as social work, pastoral care, other spiritual services, or the Ethics Committee that can help resolve questions and concerns about your hospital stay and care.
- To have access at any time to a telephone where you may speak without being monitored by the hospital.
- To file a grievance or complaint about the hospital without the fear of retaliation. You may contact a Patient Advocacy staff at 202-444-3040. In addition, you may contact the District of Columbia, The Joint Commission, or the Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights.

- District of Columbia Department of Health
Address: 899 North Capitol St., NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: **202-442-5955**
Email: dohedc.gov

- The Joint Commission Office of Quality and Patient Safety
Address: One Renaissance Blvd., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
Phone: **800-994-6610** Fax: **630-792-5636**
Website: JointCommission.org (Using the "Report a Patient Safety Event" link in the "Action Center" on the homepage.)

- Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights
Address: 200 Independent Ave., SW, Room 509F
HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201
Phone: **800-368-1019** or **800-537-7697** (TDD)
Office for Civil Rights Compliant Portal available at:
ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf

- To file a grievance or complaint with your healthcare insurance or payer.

As a patient at this MedStar Health facility, you have the responsibility:

- To treat staff and others with respect.
- To follow the treatment plan developed with your physician. To ask if you do not understand the consequences of alternative treatment and/or if you refuse treatment. To let your caregivers know if you do not understand any written or verbal information given to you.
- To provide, to the best of your knowledge, accurate and complete information about present complaints, past illnesses, hospitalizations, medications and other matters related to your health.
- To inform your caregivers about any pain or discomfort you may be experiencing.
- To inform your caregivers about any changes to your Advance Directive.
- To actively participate in your discharge planning with your physician and other members of your healthcare team as early as practical during your hospital stay.
- To promptly meet all financial commitments for the care you receive at this MedStar Health facility.
- To not keep valuables with you while you are in the hospital.
- To not use personal electronic devices (mobile or smart phones, cameras, other video or audio recording devices) to take photographs, videos or audio recordings within the hospital.
- To be respectful of the property of other persons and of the hospital.
- To be considerate of the rights of other patients, to assist with noise control and to ask family and friends to visit only during visiting hours. To not discuss any information regarding another patient that you may have overheard.
- To be considerate of the facility staff and to refrain from abusive behavior, actions or comments.
- To make arrangements for transportation home upon your discharge.
- To comply with all the rules and regulations of the hospital, including infection control, medication administration, dietary plans, life safety and security policies and procedures affecting patient care, and conduct. To remember that this MedStar Health facility is a tobacco-free campus and that you may not smoke or use electronic smoking devices **anywhere** in or on the campus.

Derechos y responsabilidades del paciente.

Como paciente de este centro de MedStar Health, tiene derecho:

- Recibir una atención considerada, respetuosa y compasiva en un entorno seguro, libre de toda forma de abuso, incluido el abuso verbal, mental, físico y sexual, el acoso, la negligencia, las represalias, la humillación o la explotación por parte del personal, los estudiantes, los voluntarios, otros pacientes, los visitantes y los familiares.
- Ser tratado sin discriminación o consideración de raza, color, origen nacional, etnia, edad, religión, discapacidad física o mental, embarazo, sexo, orientación sexual, estereotipos sexuales, estado civil, género, identidad o expresión de género, idioma, capacidad de pago o situación socioeconómica. Ser tratado de acuerdo con sus valores personales, creencias, deseos o identidad de género en todas las actividades relacionadas con el tratamiento que recibe.
- A someterse a un examen médico y a recibir un tratamiento estabilizador para las condiciones médicas de emergencia y parto.
- Tener acceso a los programas y actividades proporcionados a través de la tecnología electrónica y de la información y el acceso físico a las áreas nuevas o modificadas de esta instalación.
- Ser examinado, evaluado y tratado por dolor.
- A que un familiar/representante y su médico sean notificados rápidamente de su ingreso en el hospital, si se dispone de información de contacto.
- Participar en su plan de atención médica. A discutir la información sobre su diagnóstico médico, condición o enfermedad, pronóstico, resultados de pruebas, opciones de tratamiento y posibles resultados de la atención y resultados imprevistos de la atención con un proveedor calificado, en un lenguaje y manera que usted entienda.
- Que se le comuniquen los nombres y puestos de trabajo de los miembros del equipo sanitario que participan en su atención si la seguridad del personal no es un problema.
- Dar el consentimiento informado antes de que se preste cualquier atención que no sea de emergencia, incluyendo los beneficios y riesgos de la atención, las alternativas a la atención y los beneficios y riesgos de las alternativas a la atención.
- Consentir, solicitar o rechazar cualquier tratamiento, según lo permita la ley, incluido el consentimiento o el rechazo a participar en una investigación que afecte a sus cuidados. Si rechaza algún tratamiento o decide no participar en un estudio de investigación, seguirá recibiendo la atención más adecuada que el hospital pueda ofrecerle.
- A que se le proporcione un medio de comunicación adecuado a través de ayudas y servicios auxiliares para garantizar la comprensión de su atención cuando no hable la lengua predominante de la comunidad o tenga una discapacidad visual o auditiva, sin coste alguno.
- Que se le facilite una lista de servicios de protección y defensa cuando los necesite.
- Disponer de un documento de instrucciones anticipadas, como un testamento en vida o el nombramiento de un agente sanitario que hable en su nombre, para comunicar sus deseos sobre el tratamiento y esperar que su documento de instrucciones anticipadas se cumpla. Para hacer o cambiar sus instrucciones anticipadas mientras está en el hospital. A no ser discriminado si decide no tener un documento de instrucciones anticipadas.
- Designar a una persona para que tome decisiones de salud en su nombre, si usted no puede hacerlo.
- Recibir visitas y tener una persona de apoyo que usted designe, incluyendo, entre otros, su cónyuge, pareja de hecho (incluyendo el cónyuge del mismo sexo), otro familiar o amigo para apoyo emocional, sin distinción de raza, color, nacionalidad, edad, religión, discapacidad física o mental, orientación sexual, identidad de género o situación económica durante su estancia en el hospital, según la política de visitas del hospital, a menos que la presencia del visitante vulnere los derechos o la seguridad de otras personas o esté contraindicada por razones médicas o terapéuticas, o que usted cambie de opinión sobre quién puede visitarlo.
- Designar a alguien que le ayude con sus cuidados en casa si está ingresado en el hospital.
- A no ser sometido a restricciones ni a reclusión, a menos que sea necesario desde el punto de vista médico o de la conducta para garantizar un entorno de atención seguro para usted y los demás y a que los cuidadores reciban la formación adecuada en relación con el uso de restricciones o reclusión.
- Consentir o negarse a que se tomen fotografías de usted con fines distintos a los de su atención.
- A que se le proporcione privacidad y confidencialidad con respecto a su identidad personal y dignidad en las discusiones sobre el cuidado y el tratamiento.
- A que su información de salud sea tratada de forma confidencial, de modo que solo puedan acceder a su historial médico las personas que participen en su atención, en el control de la calidad de la misma o que estén autorizadas por la ley.
- Acceder, solicitar que se modifique o recibir una relación de las divulgaciones de su historial médico, según lo permitido por la ley y de acuerdo con la Ley de Portabilidad y Responsabilidad del Seguro Médico (HIPAA). Recibir un aviso de prácticas de privacidad que expliquen estos derechos.

- A recibir una declaración por escrito de los servicios que pueden prestarse solo cuando sean necesarios por razones médicas y de los cargos por servicios no cubiertos por Medicare o Medicaid.

- Ser consciente de que, si usted es un paciente de bajos ingresos que carece de seguro médico o cuyo seguro no cubre el costo total de su atención, puede ser elegible para este programa de asistencia financiera de MedStar Health que da algunos tipos de atención gratis o a un precio reducido.

- A ser informado de su derecho a apelar si no está de acuerdo con la determinación de que no es candidato para el programa de asistencia financiera.

- Solicitar una estimación de los gastos del hospital antes de que se preste la atención y siempre que no se impida la atención del paciente y a recibir una explicación por escrito de su factura, independientemente de la fuente de pago.

- Conocer y acceder a los recursos del hospital, como el trabajo social, la atención pastoral, otros servicios espirituales o el comité de ética, que pueden ayudar a resolver preguntas e inquietudes sobre su estancia y atención en el hospital.

- A tener acceso en cualquier momento a un teléfono donde pueda hablar sin ser vigilado por el hospital.

- A presentar una queja o una reclamación sobre el hospital sin temor a represalias. Puede ponerse en contacto con el personal del Defensor del Paciente al **202-444-2273**. Además, puede ponerse en contacto con el distrito de Columbia, la Comisión Conjunta o la Oficina de Derechos Civiles del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos.

-Departamento de Salud del Distrito de Columbia Dirección: 899 North Capitol St., NE, Washington, DC 20002

Teléfono: **202-442-5955**

Correo electrónico: doh@dc.gov

- Dirección de la Comisión Conjunta de la Oficina de Calidad y Seguridad del Paciente: One Renaissance Blvd., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 Teléfono: **800-994-6610** Fax: **630-792-5636**

Sitio web: JointCommission.org (Usar el enlace "Report a Patient Safety Event" en "Action Center" en la página de inicio.)

- Dirección del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos Oficina de Derechos Civiles: 200 Independent Ave., SW, Room 509F HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201

Teléfono: **800-368-1019** o **800-537-7697** (TDD)

Portal de cumplimiento de la Oficina de Derechos Civiles disponible en:

ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf.

- Para presentar una queja o una reclamación ante su seguro médico o pagador.

Como paciente en las instalaciones de MedStar Health, usted tiene las siguientes responsabilidades:

- A tratar al personal y a los demás con respeto.

- Seguir el plan de tratamiento elaborado con su médico. Preguntar si no comprende las consecuencias de un tratamiento alternativo o si rechaza el tratamiento. Informar a sus cuidadores si no entiende cualquier información escrita o verbal que le den.

- Proporcionar, a su leal saber y entender, información precisa y completa sobre sus dolencias actuales, enfermedades pasadas, hospitalizaciones, medicamentos y otros asuntos relacionados con su salud.

- Informar a sus cuidadores sobre cualquier dolor o molestia que pueda sentir.

- Informar a sus cuidadores sobre cualquier cambio en sus instrucciones anticipadas.

- Participar activamente en la planificación del alta con su médico y otros miembros de su equipo sanitario tan pronto como sea posible durante su estancia en el hospital.

- Cumplir puntualmente con todos los compromisos financieros por la atención que recibe en este centro de MedStar Health.

- No llevar objetos de valor mientras esté en el hospital.

- No utilizar dispositivos electrónicos personales (teléfonos móviles o inteligentes, cámaras, otros dispositivos de grabación de video o audio) para hacer fotografías, videos o grabaciones de audio dentro del hospital.

- Ser respetuoso con la propiedad de otras personas y del hospital.

- Ser respetuoso con los derechos de los demás pacientes, ayudar a controlar el ruido y pedir a los familiares y amigos que solo les visiten durante las horas de visita. No comentar ninguna información relativa a otro paciente que haya podido escuchar.

- Ser considerado con el personal del centro y abstenerse de comportamientos, acciones o comentarios abusivos.

- Hacer los arreglos para el transporte a casa cuando le den el alta.

- Cumplir con todas las normas y reglamentos del hospital, incluyendo el control de infecciones, la administración de medicamentos, los planes dietéticos, las políticas y procedimientos de seguridad y protección de la vida que afectan a la atención de los pacientes y la conducta.

- Recordar que este centro de MedStar Health es un campus libre de tabaco y que no se puede fumar ni utilizar dispositivos electrónicos para fumar en **ningún lugar** del campus.

Our Patient and Visitor Code of Conduct.

MedStar Health is committed to providing high-quality care to our patients and communities in a safe and respectful environment that supports health and healing.

To ensure our hospitals and care locations are safe, caring, and inclusive, we ask that patients and visitors adhere to our Patient and Visitor Code of Conduct:



Everyone will be treated with kindness, dignity, and respect.



All patients and visitors will use respectful, appropriate language and behavior.



All patients and visitors will respect patient privacy and avoid disrupting other patients' care or experiences.



All patients and visitors must obtain the consent of everyone involved for any photographing or video/audio recording within all hospitals and patient care locations.

If these guidelines are not followed, patients may be asked to leave and make other plans for their non-emergency care. Visitors may be asked to leave and could be restricted from future visitation.

Every day, our providers, nurses, and associates are committed to providing the highest levels of care to our patients. Please show them the respect they deserve and that you expect as a patient or visitor.

Thank you for choosing MedStar Health and joining us in our commitment to ensuring a safe, caring, and inclusive environment for us all.



Scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [MedStarHealth.org/Conduct](https://www.MedStarHealth.org/Conduct) for more details about our Patient and Visitor Code of Conduct.

Nuestro Código de Conducta para Pacientes y Visitantes.

MedStar Health se compromete a proporcionar una atención de alta calidad a nuestros pacientes y comunidades en un entorno seguro y respetuoso que favorezca la salud y la curación.

Para garantizar que nuestros hospitales y centros de atención sean seguros, solidarios e inclusivos, pedimos a pacientes y visitantes que cumplan con nuestro Código de conducta para pacientes y visitantes:



Se tratará a todos con bondad, dignidad y respeto.



Todos los pacientes y visitantes utilizarán un lenguaje y un comportamiento respetuosos y adecuados.



Todos los pacientes y visitantes respetarán la intimidad del paciente y evitarán perturbar la atención o la experiencia de otros pacientes.



Todos los pacientes y visitantes deben obtener el consentimiento de todas las personas involucrados en el caso de cualquier fotografía o grabación de video/audio en todos los hospitales y centros de atención al paciente.

Si no se siguen estos lineamientos, se les puede pedir a los pacientes que se retiren y hagan otros planes para su atención no urgente. A los visitantes se les puede pedir que se retiren y se les puede restringir la visita en el futuro.

Día tras día nuestros proveedores, personal de enfermería y asociados se comprometen a proporcionar los más altos niveles de atención a nuestros pacientes. Por favor, muéstreles el respeto que merecen y que usted espera como paciente o visitante.

Gracias por elegir MedStar Health y unirse a nuestro compromiso de garantizar un entorno seguro, solidario e inclusivo para todos nosotros.



Escanee el código QR con su teléfono inteligente o visite [MedStarHealth.org/Conduct](https://www.MedStarHealth.org/Conduct) para obtener más detalles sobre nuestro Código de conducta para pacientes y visitantes.

Outpatient in observation status

When you are a patient at the hospital, the doctor caring for you must determine whether you require care as an inpatient or an outpatient.

The hospital must follow specific medical criteria to determine if you will be admitted as an inpatient or placed in outpatient observation. It is important to understand that these criteria have been developed by Medicare and your insurance carrier and are not at the discretion of your physician or the hospital.

Your doctor may designate your status as an outpatient in observation. This means that you **have not** been admitted as an inpatient to the hospital, even though you are receiving care in the hospital during your brief stay.

If your status is designated as an outpatient in observation at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, your doctor has determined that he/she would like to conduct further testing and medical evaluation of your condition to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient.

We'd like to be sure you are aware of the following information while you are designated as an outpatient in observation:

- The quality of care you receive as an outpatient in observation is exactly the same as the care you would receive if you were admitted as an inpatient.
- You may be responsible for additional out-of-pocket expenses, such as co-payments, deductibles, and the cost of certain medications in line with your insurance plan's outpatient coverage. If you have questions about your coverage, please contact your insurance company.

If you have any questions regarding your status as an outpatient in observation, please speak with your care team.

Thank you for choosing MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and for trusting us with your care.



Revised May 2024

It's how we treat people.



YOUR TEAM

Your Care Team



While in the hospital, we will do everything we can to ensure your stay is safe, pleasant, and comfortable. Here are a few details about what to expect:

When will I see my medical provider?

Your medical provider or their designee will visit you every day. When your medical provider visits you, it is important to discuss how you feel, what medications you are currently taking, procedures or tests needed, your discharge plans, and any questions you have regarding your care. Your medical provider can be a doctor, nurse practitioner, and/or a physician assistant.

Why are there different medical providers coming to see me?

Your medical providers may need to consult specialists to assist with planning your medical care. These specialists will work with your healthcare team to create a care plan specific to you.

What if I have a question for my medical provider that I forgot?

Our medical providers care for patients all over the hospital and are not stationed on the unit. Your nurse will help contact your medical provider for any additional questions, or they can write your questions on your whiteboard for your medical team to review during their next visit.



YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is a world-renowned academic medical center, committed to providing the best, most up-to-date patient care available. To do this, we use the skills and expertise of a large healthcare team, and at the same time, educate the next generation of professionals. **These students are under the direct supervision of a licensed professional.** All members of your care team wear identification badges and are introduced to you. If you have additional questions about the role of students at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, please ask your provider.

We encourage and depend on our patients and families to actively contribute to the process of planning and delivering care. Working together, we can offer excellent customized patient care.



YOUR TEAM

Your Care Team (Continued)



What does my nurse do?

Your nurse will do a full head-to-toe physical assessment on you every shift or with any change in your condition. Assessments may include a complete skin assessment, fall risk assessment, and neurological assessment. These assessments may be repeated, allowing us to monitor your progress and provide the best care for you.

What does my patient care technician do?

Your patient care technician works under the supervision of your nurse. They will assist your nurse with taking your vital signs, checking your blood sugar level, changing your bedding, assisting you with going to the restroom, helping with daily cleaning, and ensuring you are comfortable throughout your stay.

Lab Draws



What about lab draws?

Your medical provider may order lab work that requires your blood to be drawn daily or as needed, based on your medical conditions. Lab draws may be done early in the morning, beginning around 5:00 a.m. We understand that this is early, but the timing is essential for your medical provider to have your lab work results by the time they visit you, so they can continue to provide a plan for your ongoing care.



PATIENT ADVOCACY AND EXPERIENCE

The Office of Patient Advocacy and Experience is available to you throughout your hospitalization. Each patient has a Patient Experience Coordinator assigned to them upon admission, to help address any concerns or feedback. Patients may also request to speak to a Patient Advocate, who serve as liaisons between patients, providers, associates, and departments to ensure we are effectively communicating with them and partnering with them in their care.

Patient Experience Coordinators are available 7 days a week, and their name and phone number can be found on the whiteboard in your room, or you may call 202-444-3040 and ask to speak with a coordinator. Your Patient Advocate can be contacted Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 202-444-3040, or MGUHPatientExperience@medstar.net.



YOUR TEAM

Your Dietary Team



Specialty Meals for Patients

A Food and Nutrition associate will visit each unit daily, at set times, to obtain meal orders. A restaurant-style menu is available to help you make your food selections. In the event that an order cannot be obtained, a standard meal that adheres to your prescribed diet order will be sent at mealtime. We will make every attempt to obtain a meal order before opting to send a standard meal, which may include attempts to contact you by phone.

Diet Modifications

In the event that diet modifications are prescribed by your provider, the Food and Nutrition associates will access your diet information prior to taking your order and will work to order preferred items with these modifications in mind.

Late-Night Dining

Late-night dining is available for late admissions and patients with late diet order changes. Night meals should be requested by calling 202-444-6424 between 7:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. (please note that the late-night menu is different from our day menu).

Weekly Specials

Weekly specials are available Wednesday through Tuesday, during the daytime only. Please ask your Food and Nutrition associates about the weekly specials when placing your order.

Dining FAQs



Can I have food from outside the hospital?

Your visitors can bring food to you from outside the hospital **as long as it is consistent with the diet ordered by your provider** to assist with your healing. Food can only be stored on the unit for 24 hours, and partially eaten food cannot be stored in refrigerators. If you are on isolation, once food has entered your room, it cannot be taken out of your room to be reheated or stored. **Your care team and nurses will not pick up outside food for you, including meeting a delivery service or your family/visitors at a hospital entrance.**

What does “NPO” mean?

There may be times during your stay when your provider will enter an order for you to be “NPO,” which means “no food or drink by mouth.” The NPO order may be due to a medical condition or a scheduled procedure. Your medical provider will remove this order when it is safe for you to begin eating and drinking again. Please note that any meal orders placed but not yet delivered before you are put on NPO **will need to be placed again once you are taken off of NPO.**



YOUR STAY

Dining FAQs (Continued)



Guest Meal Trays

Guest meal trays are available for all meal periods, and tickets can be purchased from the Cashier's Office on the first floor of the Main Building (or from any retail cafés). Guests can place orders with the Food and Nutrition associates at the patient's bedside and must provide proof of ticket purchase. Pediatrics, Labor/Delivery, and Maternity guests are allowed complimentary meals for the duration of a patient's stay (maximum of 1 guest per patient).

Your Room



We are committed to ensuring that you are as comfortable as possible during your stay with us. Your room assignment depends upon the type of care you need. Some services are restricted to specific locations to ensure proper care. Each hospital room is equipped with a TV, call bell, and whiteboard.



What is the whiteboard in my room?

The whiteboard in your room is your personalized communication board. Your healthcare team will use the whiteboard to keep you updated during your stay. Your care team will use the board to write information including:

- Your nurse, patient care technician, doctor, and patient experience coordinator's names and phone numbers.
- Your plan of care for the day, including any tests needed.
- Details about your pain and the timing of your next pain medication dose.



My Call Bell

Responding to your needs is a top priority for our team. To call your nurse, use the call button located near you. There is also a call button located in each bathroom and shower. When you press the button, the nursing station is alerted that you need assistance and a light flashes above your door. An associate will respond to your call.



What about my bed linens?

Your bedding will be changed on a regular basis and as necessary by a member of your clinical care team. Remember that it is very easy to misplace small personal items in your bedding. **Please be careful to secure such belongings in your plastic bag or bedside table, or send them home with family or friends for safekeeping.**

Safety



Identification Bracelet

Be sure to wear your hospital identification bracelet during your entire visit. If you receive a colored safety bracelet, keep that on as well. Colors used at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital include **red** for allergies, **yellow** for patient at risk to fall, **gray** for obstructive sleep apnea, and **pink** for restricted extremity for venipuncture or blood pressure.



TWO WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR SAFETY IN THE HOSPITAL

Clean Your Hands Frequently & Ask for "CHG Treatment" Daily

Cleaning Your Hands

Germs live on our hands - that's why we wash our hands frequently at home. It is just as important to keep our hands clean while in the hospital!

Below is a list of important times to clean your hands. Doing so will help prevent the spread of germs!



Before and After Eating



After Using the Bathroom



Before and After Touching Wounds or Devices



When Entering or Leaving Your Room



After Contact with Commonly Touched Surfaces Like Walkers, Call Bells, Phones

Ways to Clean Your Hands in the Hospital

Utilize soap and water to wash your hands in your private bathroom or utilize sinks available in the hallways.

Hand wipes are available on your meal trays—two wipes are provided with each meal, one for before you eat, and one for after you finish your meal.

Hand sanitizers—there are automatic wall hand sanitizers in your room and in the hallways.

What is a "CHG Treatment?"

CHG Treatments are full body wipes that treat skin germs on your body while you are in the hospital. CHG helps keep your whole body clean and germ free while you are here! It protects your skin for 24 hours and can help stop the spread of germs that impacts IV sites, wounds, and other devices you may get in the hospital.



The MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Program is committed to the prevention of the spread of infections among patients, associates, and visitors. Cleanliness is the key to infection prevention and control. The best way to prevent the spread of infection is through good hand washing with soap and water, or the use of antibacterial wipes.

Please complete a quick 5-question survey about the hand-hygiene initiative by scanning the QR code here:

5 Question Patient Survey





YOUR STAY

Television Channel Listings



2	MGUH Chapel Channel	21	Investigation Discovery	46	Freeform
4	NBC	23	Game Show Network	47	AMC
5	FOX	33	ESPN	48	Animal Planet
7	ABC	34	ESPN2	49	Discovery
8	CARE	35	Univision (Spanish)	50	TLC
9	CBS	36	Galavision (Spanish)	51	Cartoon Network
10	Guided Imagery-CARE	37	Comcast Sportsnet	52	Nickelodeon
11	WETA (PBS)	38	Lifetime	53	TLC
13	CW 50 DC	39	CNN	54	Bloomberg
14	MY 20	40	Fox News	55	Comedy Central
15	Hub	41	CNN Headline News	56	VHI
16	Disney Channel	42	TBS	58	Travel Channel
17	TV Land	43	The Weather Channel	59	The Food Network
18	Nicktoons	44	TNT	60	National Geographic
20	Disney XD	45	USA	61	Telefutura (Spanish)

Assistive Devices for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing: Closed captioned televisions are in all patient rooms.



YOUR STAY

Environmental Services



How often is my room cleaned?

Before arrival, your room was cleaned and sanitized. To ensure your room is kept clean, an Environmental Services associate will clean your bathroom, mop the floor, and remove the trash once a day. Turndown services will be done in the evening to remove the trash can from your room. If your room needs additional attention after the daily cleaning, please notify your nurse or patient care technician, or call Environmental Services at 202-444-7596.

Your Belongings



Can I keep my personal belongings with me?

To avoid loss or damage, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital **strongly recommends that upon arrival, your personal belongings, valuables, electronics, and medications are sent home.** Our Protective Services Department can secure small valuables that are not sent home and will return them to you upon discharge. **Weapons including (but not limited to) knives, guns, and lighters, are not allowed inside the hospital.**

Assistive devices, such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, and dentures kept at your bedside should be placed in a storage case labeled with your name and date of birth. To prevent loss and/or damage, please do not place your assistive devices in your pillowcase, meal tray, or bed linens. **MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is not responsible or liable for the loss or damage of any patient belongings or valuables.**



What if I brought my home medications to the hospital?

We will provide all necessary medications to you for the duration of your stay. If you decide to keep your home medications at the hospital, please inform your nurse, who will verify those medications with orders from your physician and provide a secure space to hold them. You may remind your nurse about your home medications upon discharge, so that they can be returned to you.

Medical Records



MedStar Georgetown University Hospital has safeguards in place to protect the privacy of your records. Your written permission is required for the release of your records, except in situations specified by the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). You should have received a pamphlet, "Notice of Privacy Practices," when you arrived at the hospital, which outlines our practices related to your records. While the information in your medical record is yours, the physical record is the property of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. To obtain a copy of your records, you may call 202-444-3184. Requests for records related to outpatient appointments must be separately requested through your doctor's office.



YOUR STAY

Fall Risk



What does fall risk mean?

Under specific circumstances, including new medications with possible side effects, unfamiliar surroundings, less sleep and increased time in bed, you may be at an increased risk of falling while you stay in the hospital. These and other factors can lead to a fall, which can cause severe injuries and may require long-term medical care.

What interventions will be used if you are identified as a high risk for fall?

Your nurse will use an evidence-based fall scale called the Morse Fall Risk Scale to determine if you are at risk for a fall while in the hospital. If you are identified as at risk for a fall, we will use several interventions to attempt to prevent you from falling during your hospital stay, including:

- Wearing yellow non-skid socks.
- Applying a yellow fall-risk armband.
- The bed alarm will be turned on to alert the team to assist you when getting out of bed.
- Your bed will be set to the lowest position.
- Your personal belongings will be kept within your reach.
- You will be educated on how to use the call bell to request assistance when needed.
- Your nurse and patient care technician will round on you to proactively help address your needs.

What does a bed alarm mean?

Your nurse and patient care technician would like you to call for assistance whenever you get out of bed. If you forget to call for assistance, the bed alarm notifies your caregiver team to help you.

Why do the nurses and patient care technicians stay with me in the bathroom?

For your safety and to prevent a fall, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's policy requires your nurse or patient care technician to stay in the bathroom to assist you.

As a fall-risk patient, why can't I leave the unit?

While on fall risk, you cannot leave the unit because we are unable to guarantee someone will be able to monitor or assist you outside the unit. For your safety, please speak with your nurse if you need to leave the unit.



FACTS ABOUT YOUR STAY

Building Entrances and Access



For your convenience, the following entrances can be utilized to access the hospital:

Main Building (Seven days a week, from 5:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.)

- Accessible via Entrance 2 from Reservoir Road: Ideal entrance for patients and visitors going to the Main Building, CCC Building, or Bles Building.

PHC Building (Monday–Friday from 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.)

- Accessible via Entrance 1 from Reservoir Road, entry from Parking 1, Levels 2 or 3 only: Ideal entrance for patients and visitors going to the PHC Building or Gorman Building.

Verstandig Pavilion (entrance open 24/7)

- Accessible via Entrance 1 from Reservoir Road, entry from Parking 1, all levels: Ideal entrance for patients and visitors going to the Verstandig Pavilion, including surgical patients having procedures and those going to the Emergency Department.

Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center (Monday–Friday 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.)

- Accessible via Entrance 4 from Reservoir Road: Ideal entrance for patients and visitors going to the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center or the Gorman Building. Parking in Leavey Center is available for patients who have obtained a special permit from their clinic.

Parking



The following parking options are available to patients and visitors:

- Self-parking is available to all patients and visitors at Entrance II Patient Parking Garage II, and Entrance I Verstandig Pavilion Parking Garage I.
- Valet parking is available to all patients and visitors via Entrance II, Patient Parking Garage II. Valet operations hours are Monday–Friday, 6:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Patients and visitors who self-park, as well as those who opt for valet parking, are reminded to take their ticket with them into the hospital for validation. Patients and visitors may ask any Guest Services desk for parking validation prior to returning to their vehicle, to receive a discounted parking rate of between \$3–7 per day.

Vehicle Restrictions at Canal Road Entrance: Only patients of the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center and patients participating in Yates Aquatic Therapy may use the Canal Road entrance, but they must have a document given to them by MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. All other patients or visitors must access the hospital via Entrance I off Reservoir Road. For further questions regarding parking fees and payment, please call the Parking Office at 202-444-3802.



FACTS ABOUT YOUR STAY

Smoking



MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is a fully tobacco/smoke-free environment. Therefore, smoking and the use of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or vaping pens are not permitted anywhere on the hospital grounds, garages, or satellite facilities owned or leased by the hospital. If you anticipate difficulty complying with these requirements or would like to quit smoking, ask your provider or nurse about educational materials for smoking cessation techniques or products and/or a referral for community resources.

Visitation



Visiting Hours take place 7 days a week, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., for a maximum of two visitors at bedside at a time. Departments including oncology, pediatrics, and behavioral health have specific visitation **criteria**. For any exceptions to these visiting hours, please contact your care team.

Pharmacy Information



MedStar Pharmacy is one option for your convenience and offers you the option to fill your discharge medication at our pharmacy located on the ground floor of the hospital. MedStar Pharmacy offers convenient prescription delivery before you leave the hospital, and accepts payment by cash, credit card, and FSA cards.

Mail Delivery and Notary Services



Mail Delivery

Mail is delivered once daily in the afternoon. Mail received after discharge will be sent to your forwarding address. Stamped outgoing mail may be left at the nursing unit for mailing.



Notary Services

Notary services are provided in-house for patients for healthcare related documents only. To arrange for notary services, please contact Patient Advocacy and Experience at 202-444-3040. For notarization of non-healthcare related documents (i.e. financial or legal), please contact a mobile notary.

Cashier's Office



The Cashier's Office is located on the first floor of the Main Building and is open Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Guest Accommodations



Hotels: Discounted accommodations for patients and family members are available at nearby hotels. All rates can be found [here](#), and are subject to change. For a hard copy list of these hotels, please ask a member of the Patient Advocacy and Experience team for assistance.



ACCOMMODATIONS AND DINING

Additional Dining Options



Café Espresso
6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Mon-Fri, 6:30 a.m.-4:00
p.m. Sat-Sun

Café Espresso is located on the first floor of the Main building. It features Starbucks coffee and specialty drinks, breakfast sandwiches and pastries, grab-and-go sandwiches and salad, and beverages.



**Wellfound Vending
Machines**

Snack food vending machines are located on the ground floor in the Gorman building. Wellfound Foods vending machines are located on the first floor and third floor of the Main building, offering freshly made sandwiches and other healthy options.



**The Leavey
Conference Center**

The Leavey Conference Center is located across the courtyard from the entrance to Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. It offers several options for both cafeteria-style and restaurant meals, including Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks.



**Georgetown Grab &
Go Market**
6:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.,
seven days a week

Georgetown Grab & Go Market is located on the ground level of the Bles building. It features grab-and-go salads and sandwiches, hot breakfast options, and daily featured meal options, snacks, and beverages.



Epicurean
6:30 a.m.-10:30
p.m., seven days a
week

Epicurean is located across the courtyard from the Verstandig Pavillion entrance. It features a variety of food options including a buffet, deli, pizza station, noodle bar, and coffee.



**Verstanding Pavilion
Coffee Kiosk, 7:00
a.m.-4:30 p.m.,
Monday-Friday**

The coffee kiosk is located on Level 1 of the Verstandig Pavilion, around the corner from the surgical liaison desk. The kiosk features coffee, tea, juice, water soda, pastries, sandwiches, salads, and snacks.



Advance Directives

A Simple and Smart Way to Take Charge of Your Care

What is an advance directive?

One of the most important decisions you can make about your care is to fill out advance directives in case you can no longer speak for yourself. Advance directives are documents that let others know your wishes about the type of care you want, and they will only be used if you become unconscious or too ill to communicate yourself.

What are the rules surrounding advance directives?

Different states have different laws about advance directives. Check with your Admissions Department or nurse if you have any questions.

What are some examples of advance directives?

- **A Living Will:** This set of instructions explains the type of life-prolonging medical care you wish to accept or refuse. It can include your wishes about the use of resuscitation (CPR) if your heart stops, a ventilator if you stop breathing, or feeding tubes or IVs if you cannot eat or drink.
- **Durable Power of Attorney for healthcare:** This is a legal document that names your healthcare proxy—someone who can make medical decisions for you if you're unable to do so. An official healthcare proxy can represent your wishes on emergency care but also on other medical issues like potential treatment options, blood transfusions, kidney dialysis, etc. Choose someone you trust, discuss your medical wishes, and make sure the person agrees to represent you in this role.
- **Durable Power of Attorney for finances:** You also have the right to appoint someone or the same person to help manage your finances if you cannot.

Where can I get more information/a template for my advance directive?

For more information on advance directives, and a helpful template for writing your own, please click [here](#).



Fill Out Your Forms!



Make sure you submit advance directives **each time** you go to the hospital so your most current information and wishes are on file. You do not need a lawyer to fill these out. For more information and to get the forms you need, contact Social Services at 202-444-3750, Pastoral Care at 202-444-3030 or Patient Access at 202-444-3180.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL

Take Charge of Your Payments

Billing Questions

Our Patient Financial Services department handles and resolves patient telephone requests concerning both hospital and physician billing issues. Patient Financial Services accepts calls Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. They can be reached at 410-933-4966 or outside the metro area (toll-free) at 844-817-6087. On our website, you will find additional information about billing, and samples of both our physician and hospital patient statements. You can also place a customer service inquiry regarding your hospital and/or physician account through our **patient portal**.

Financial Assistance

If you do not have insurance or lack comprehensive insurance coverage, please call the Pre-Certification Department at 202-444-7226 to speak with our financial counselors about payment plans or eligibility for Medicaid or other financial assistance programs. There are several financial assistance options available to our patients. If you contact us, we will bring all the necessary information and forms to your hospital room for you to complete.

Additional Payment Information

To discuss payment of your balance or to inquire about financial assistance, please contact Patient Financial Services at 410-993-4966 or outside the Metro area (toll-free) at 844-817-6087.

Sometimes it is important that we contact you by telephone or mail. Please make sure the hospital has your correct telephone number and mailing address on file. If you are not sure your information is correct, please contact our Patient Financial Services at 410-993-4966 or outside the Metro area (toll-free) at 844-817-6087.

After your discharge, you may receive one bill from MedStar Georgetown University Hospital that covers hospital services and hospital-employed physician services. You may also receive other bills from non-Georgetown staff that are related to your stay at the hospital (see "Other Services" for additional details).

Other Services

If you receive services from non-MedStar Georgetown University Hospital employed providers, outside labs, medical equipment suppliers, etc., you will receive a separate statement from them.

Need Help?

If you don't understand something on your bill, or if you're having trouble paying your bills, let us know. A patient representative can work with you and guide you to services that can help. If you have a concern about your insurance coverage, please discuss this with a case manager or social worker.



HOSPITAL RESOURCES

Pastoral Care Services



As a Catholic and Jesuit hospital, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's mission is to provide physical and spiritual comfort in the Jesuit tradition of *cura personalis*—care of the whole person. As a part of our Catholic and Jesuit identity, a crucifix is placed in each patient room. The crucifix symbolizes God's unconditional love for us, especially the sick. It is a reminder that love often comes with a great sacrifice, and that Jesus' mission to reconcile us with God and one another found expression in his own human suffering upon the cross. It is a profound symbol that demonstrates God's ultimate power to overcome sin and death in the miracle of Christ's resurrection. **We are sensitive to everyone's spiritual beliefs and will respectfully remove the crucifix if it does not align with the patient's beliefs.**

We provide many services to help meet the needs of our spiritual patients:

- Chaplains representing a variety of denominations are available to all patients and visitors for spiritual support. We can help arrange visits from ministers of other religions and denominations, and patients are welcome to invite ministers or clergy from their own denominations. Chaplains and Catholic priests are always available on an on-call basis.
- The Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Communion, and Reconciliation (Confession) are available for patients upon request.
- All are welcome to the hospital chapel for personal prayer or meditation 24 hours a day. The chapel is located on the first floor of the Main Building.
- Catholic Mass is offered daily in the chapel at 12:05 p.m.
- An Interfaith Gathering of Hope is held in the chapel at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Beginning in September of 2024, these gatherings will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- All services are broadcast on the hospital's Channel 2.

To Contact Pastoral Care, please call ext. 202-444-3030.

Volunteer Services



MedStar Georgetown University Hospital volunteers provide extra care and support for our patients, families, and visitors. During your stay, you may meet one of our dedicated volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 202-444-0695.

Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center



Through the Lombardi CancerLine at 202-444-4000, experienced nurses address questions and provide information from the National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society, serving as a resource to identify risk factors and ways to reduce cancer risk. Lombardi CancerLine nurses can provide physician referrals, schedule appointments, and connect callers to oncology specialists for information about cancer research protocols. The Lombardi CancerLine is available Monday-Friday.



HOSPITAL RESOURCES

Pediatrics



The associates on Pediatric Units takes great pride in offering your child excellent care. We are committed to the principles of family-centered care that encourage close collaboration and cooperation between the healthcare team, patient, and parent.

Your Child's Comfort

We realize that as parents, you want your child to feel comfortable and secure while in the hospital. We encourage you to bring items from home that are familiar and reassuring to your child such as a favorite toy and book, blanket and pillow, pajamas, and photos of family, friends, and pets. Parents or primary adult caregivers are welcome to stay with their child 24 hours a day. Other visitors can visit from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For additional information on visitation, please contact your child's care team.

Patient and Family Services: Child Life Specialists

Our Child Life Specialists are trained to meet the emotional and developmental needs of your child throughout the hospital experience. They can provide you and your child with positive coping strategies to diminish the stress and fear that can occur during unexpected or planned hospital admission, including therapeutic play, and recreational activities such as arts and crafts, toys, and games. You may contact the Child Life Specialist at 202-444-3037. To learn more about our Child Life program, click [here](#).

Social Work/Case Management



Our case managers monitor your stay to ensure you are not hospitalized for longer than necessary and minimize out of pocket costs. Upon discharge, case managers and social workers can help arrange nursing or rehabilitation facilities, suggest support services, arrange for home care services, refer you to community resources for counseling, and help you and your family face illness. Case managers and social workers maintain a current list of home care agencies and will help you arrange services that are covered by your insurance. Our social workers can provide counseling to address any stress that may result from injury or illness. To contact Social Work/Case Management, please call 202-444-3750.

Accessing Your Health Information Online



myMedStar is a free, secure patient portal where you can review most laboratory test results (excluding biopsies), view summaries of your visits, exchange email messages securely with your MedStar provider(s), and request prescription renewals, appointments, and physician referrals from your MedStar physician. To learn more and register, visit myMedStar.org or call 877-745-5656.



CONCLUSION

Giving Back to MGUH



Make a Gift to Transform Healthcare for our Patients and Families

Philanthropy is a cornerstone of progress at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, and the Verstandig Pavilion stands as a shining testament to this generosity. Thanks to the unwavering support of donors, we've revolutionized healthcare with cutting-edge technology, pioneering research, and innovative programs, empowering our providers to deliver exceptional care to our patients. The Pavilion features state-of-the-art operating rooms, all private patient rooms, a life-saving emergency department, a rooftop helipad for swift access, and three levels of underground parking. This remarkable facility exemplifies the profound impact philanthropy has on the well-being of our patients and their families.

We invite you to join us in this transformative journey by donating to MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, helping us continue to provide exceptional care and groundbreaking advancements for our patients and their families. Your gift can be directed to benefit a specific department, program, or area of your choice. You may also choose to give in honor or memory of a loved one or a dedicated healthcare provider.

To make a gift, click [here](#), call 202-444-0721 to speak with a member of our philanthropy team, or mail your check to the address below. Please indicate the gift designation in the memo portion of your check.

*MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Attn: Philanthropy Office
3800 Reservoir Road
Washington, D.C., 20007*

THANK YOU!

At MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, our patients are our top priority. We thank you for taking the time to read through your patient guide, and for trusting us with your continued care and comfort.