

HITH patient responsibilities

Your responsibilities are to:

- Comply with the care plan that has been developed for you.
- Promptly inform HITH staff of any change to your condition.
- Ensure the environment is safe for you, your carer and HITH staff.
- Ensure the telephone is connected and in working order.
- Ensure you are available for nursing/ medical assessment or treatment at the nominated residence and times.
- Ensure you provide a clean flat surface, approximate kitchen table height, to assist HITH staff in administering treatment.
- Remain in the Swan Hill area while on the HITH program.
- Ensure all hospital supplies and equipment are treated with care and stored as instructed.
- Understand HITH services can be withdrawn if HITH staff feels that the home environment poses any form of risk to you, your carer or HITH staff.
- Understand you may be requested to return to hospital if your condition deteriorates.

PHONE CONTACT NUMBERS

As a Hospital In The Home patient, you have 24 hour access to advice and or emergency services.

Please call any time if you feel unwell, if you have any changing symptoms, or if you have any concerns.

Keep this brochure by the phone for fast access to advice and emergency services if necessary.

SWAN HILL DISTRICT HOSPITAL
Accident & Emergency Department
24 hours a day, 7 days a week,
Contact number (03) 5033 9300

AMBULANCE SERVICE
Contact number 000

HITH TEAM / CO-ORDINATOR
7 days a week
Phone: (03) 5033 9375 (District Nursing)

G.P. CLINICS
McCrae Street Clinic (03) 5033 1711
Swan Hill Primary Health Medical Clinic (03) 5033 9900



HITH

Hospital In The Home Program

What is Hospital In The Home?

Hospital in the Home (HITH) allows selected patients the opportunity to receive acute care hospital services in their own home environment. HITH patients remain under the care of Swan Hill District Hospital and their respective general practitioner, and are a patient of the hospital while in the program.

HITH might start as a direct admission from the emergency department, or if already in hospital you can be transferred to HITH if the treating doctor deems it appropriate, you meet the criteria, and you agree to participate. Registered nurses deliver clinical care in collaboration with your doctor. Staff wear an official hospital badge when attending you at your home.

Benefits of HITH

- Provision of quality hospital care in a familiar, comfortable and private environment.
- Less disruption to lifestyle, and allows return to normal activities as appropriate.
- Less risk of infection.
- Empowers you to make decisions about your health and lifestyle and provides the opportunity to make these choices with informed support from caring health professionals.
- Eliminates the need for separation from family and friends.

Consent

Your consent must be obtained before being admitted to the HITH program. Children under 18 years of age will require their parents/guardian to sign. Before this, a doctor or nurse will provide a detailed explanation of the program and specific plan of care including:

- Your individualised care plan at home as directed by your treating doctor.
- Planned length of stay on the program.
- A mutually convenient time for home visits and when they will begin.
- Schedule medical reviews.
- Develop emergency plan.
- Discuss discharge plan and determine and organise other services if required.

What are the costs?

There is **no cost** to you for the medications, equipment used, or services provided to you while in the HITH program.

Support person (carer)

It is not necessary to have a support person, however a support person is highly valued during your time in the program. The decision rests with the treating doctor and the HITH team when deciding the appropriateness of your admission into the HITH program.

How do I qualify for HITH?

- You are independent with activities of daily living or are supported by a carer.
- Agree to be treated in HITH.
- Have a suitable medical illness, this will be decided by your doctor.
- Have a telephone and access to transport.
- Have a safe and suitable home environment.
- Live within an area serviced by the Hospital In The Home provider.

What are my rights and responsibilities if I am part of the program?

- As part of the Hospital In The Home program you will be given a pamphlet that outlines your rights and responsibilities as a health consumer and in particular your rights to confidentiality and the shared use of information across service providers.
- All patients or carers are asked to give informed written consent to participate in the program and can withdraw from the Hospital In The Home program at any time.
- Any concerns or grievances about the service can be expressed without affecting any service.