

Square Medical Group

Discharge Policy

Obviously, it is the intent of Square Medical Group to have all of its patients successfully complete their treatment and be discharged under satisfactory conditions. However we understand that that is not always possible and as a result discharges have been categorized into 5 categories:

1. Successful Completion: Patient has successfully progressed in completing their treatment goals in both individual and group therapy. Both the patient and the prescribing psychiatrist are confident that the patient now has the knowledge and skill to maintain their current level of functioning without requiring scheduled treatment. A discharge summary will be completed chronicling the patient's treatment referrals and aftercare instructions.
2. Voluntary Termination: Square Medical Group is a voluntary program and patients are allowed to terminate their participation at any time. Every effort shall be made to educate the patient on the benefits of staying in treatment. A discharge summary will be supplied to the patient stating that although the discharge was voluntary it was done prior to the completion of the outlined schedule.
3. Involuntary Termination: This is an unfortunate occurrence but one that must be addressed. Every effort shall be made to assist the patient with successful completion of the program; however, there are particular circumstances and behaviors which will force the staff to discharge the patient. These include but are not limited to:
 - Refusing or failing to allow contact between Square Medical Group's medical staff and outside prescribing physicians shall constitute legitimate grounds for termination.
 - Behaviors which could lead to termination may include but are not limited to: stealing, selling drugs, smoking in our building or threatening violence to another patient or staff member. A discharge summary will contain information regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary discharge.
4. Medical Discharges shall occur if it is discovered that the patient's medical conditions require a higher level of medical care. The patient will be supplied with a discharge summary containing information regarding the circumstances of the discharge. Square Medical Group shall make every effort within the H.I.P.A.A. regulations and with the patient's consent to inform the referring medical facility or provider of the circumstances of discharge.
5. Appeal Process for Discharges: The patient or his/her legal representative has the right to file a complaint if they believe the discharge was inhumane, dangerous or illegal. You may submit a written appeal to our Medical Director, Natalie Lender, M.D. for consideration.
6. Transfers and referrals are completed on an as needed case by case basis. If it is determined that the patient's needs would be best met at another facility the patient will be supplied with a discharge summary. Square Medical Group will make every effort to inform the receiving facility or provider of the circumstances of discharge.