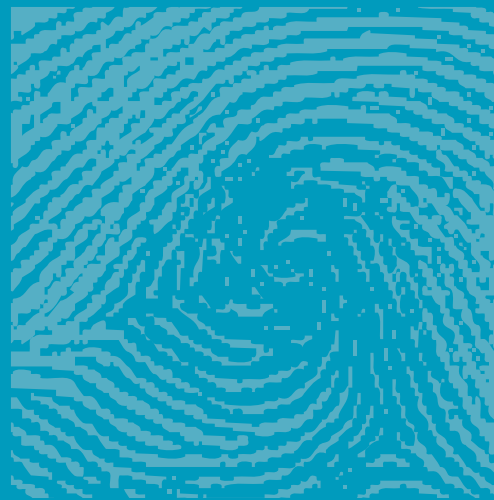


# Improving patient transition from hospital to the community

A good practice guide for hospitals



## **Improving patient transition from hospital to the community: a good practice guide**

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## Foreword from the Minister for Health

The Patient transition from hospital to the community – a good practice guide, has been produced for hospitals to improve the care provided to patients when they leave hospital.

The Government recognises that transition planning has a significant impact on the way patients recover after they leave hospital. Over the past five years the Government has initiated a range of projects with hospitals to improve patient transition back to the community. This has resulted in a range of improvements including better assessment and planning for patients' post discharge needs and stronger networking with community service providers and general practitioners.

These initiatives will improve communication with patients and family members and provide increased support to the patient on returning home, resulting in improved health outcomes. Hospitals will benefit by reduced re-admissions, improved patient flow, and increased patient and staff satisfaction.

The guide brings together examples of excellent initiatives by Victorian hospitals. The guide is a resource tool for hospitals so they can continue to better meet the needs of patients. It is presented in a simple, easy-to-use format containing up to date evidence of good practice in patient transition with tips and information resources for hospitals.

I encourage you to use this resource to help build better relationships with general practitioners and services in the community and improve patient care for people leaving hospital.



**The Hon Bronwyn Pike  
Minister for Health**

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