SB 1152: Discharge Planning for Homeless Patients

January 2019
Homeless Discharge Senate Bill

Background and Specifics

- The Homeless Discharge SB was introduced in February 2018, by Senator Ed Hernandez in response to alleged “dumping” of homeless patients.
- The law goes into effect January 1, 2019 with additional provisions required to be in place by July 2019.
- The homeless patient discharge planning law must be followed by all hospitals when discharging homeless patients, this includes outpatient and inpatient discharges.
- California Hospital Association created a step-by-step toolkit addressing provisions of the SB.

Purpose of Legislation

- The homeless patient discharge planning provisions are in place to help prepare the homeless patient for return to the community by connecting him or her with available community resources, treatment, shelter and other supportive services.
SB 1152 defines *Homeless Patient* as one who...

1. Lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence, *or*

2. Has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations *or*

3. Is residing in a public or private place that was not designed to provide temporary living accommodations or to be used as a sleeping accommodation for human beings.
SB Requirements for Hospitals

**Required by January 2019**
- Identify homeless patients
- Identify post-discharge destination
- Offer meal plan and weather appropriate clothing
- Offer transportation (<30 min or <30 miles)
- Provide for discharge medications
- Infectious disease screening or referral
- Vaccination plan
- Screen for affordable health coverage

**Required by July 2019**
- Communicate post-discharge needs to receiving entity
- Create a homeless patient discharge log
- Create a method to document compliance
Homeless Patient Discharge Plan
Documentation

Homeless Patient Identification

- Patients who are homeless are assigned a ZZZZZZ zip code by registration.
- The ZZZZZZ zip code will serve as the trigger to identify patients and to generate the Homeless Patient Discharge Assessment.

Documentation Design

- The Homeless Patient Discharge Assessment is a standalone screen that can be accessed by Nursing, Case Management and Social Services.
- The documented responses pull forward to improve communication regarding what requirements have been met.
- The Homeless Patient Discharge Assessment is launched if Registration has assigned the ZZZZZZ zip code. In the ED, it is the Past Medical History and for inpatients the Admission History.
- The ER Disposition screen will also provide another opportunity to capture the Homeless Patient Discharge Assessment with all required responses if the zip code is ZZZZZZ.
# Homeless Patient Discharge Documentation

## Assessments

### Homeless Patient Discharge

#### Discharge Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Destination Arrangements</td>
<td>Hospital Arranged, Patient Declines to State, Patient Arranged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge Destination</td>
<td>Offered and Provided, Offered and Patient Refused, Unable to Provide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Transportation Due to Distance &gt;30 min/ &gt;30miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal</td>
<td>Offered and Provided, Meal Not Given Because of Medical Contraindication, Offered and Patient Refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Clothing for Weather</td>
<td>Clothing is Adequate and Appropriate for Weather, Not Adequate, Weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescriptions</td>
<td>No Prescriptions, Prescription Provided, Offered Prescribed Medications, but Refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescriptions Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious Disease</td>
<td>Referred to County Clinic for Appropriate Screening, Refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccinated</td>
<td>Vaccinated for the Patients Presenting Medical Condition, Patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Coverage Assessment</td>
<td>Written Material Provided, Patient Refused</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Zip Code

ZZZZZ
Discharge Arrangements and Destination

- Discharge Destination
  - Document who made the arrangements and the discharge destination.
  - Indicate the name of the shelter if known.
- The Homeless Patient Discharge Plan form will provide a list of shelters. You will learn how to add this form to the discharge packet in the last slide.
Provide Transportation

- Document if transportation was offered and outcome.
- If the discharge destination is greater than 30 miles away or 30 minutes away, document unable to provide transportation.

Transportation Vouchers

- ED → Obtain from Charge Nurse
- Inpatient → Obtain from Admin Supervisor or Case Manager
Provide Meal

- Document if meal was offered and provided.
- If meal contraindicated due to medical condition, document accordingly.
- If meal is provided and patient refused, document patient refused.
- ED patients → Fridge located in Supply Room across from MAIN

![Meal Options]

*Unless medically contraindicated, the patient must be offered a meal.*
Provide Weather-Appropriate Clothing

- If patient does not have weather-appropriate clothing, provide patient with appropriate clothing for weather.
- Clothing cabinet located in 1 Main Social Services office across from room 103. Badge entry required.
  - Take clothing items needed to ensure patient is dressed appropriately for weather conditions.
  - Document items taken on form in office to ensure proper inventory is maintained.

* Adequate Clothing for Weather

- Clothing is Adequate and Appropriate for Weather
- Not Adequate, Weather Appropriate Clothing Provided
- Not Adequate, Patient Refused Weather Appropriate Clothing
Prescriptions

- Provide prescriptions as ordered by Provider.
- If no prescriptions were ordered document accordingly.
- If patient refuses prescriptions, document refused.
- An additional field has been provided to document any other comments related to prescriptions.
**Infectious Disease Referral**

- An infectious disease screening referral to the Monterey County Health Department will print on the standalone form for Homeless Patient Discharge Plan.

- Verbiage from Homeless Patient Discharge Plan form
Vaccination

- Patients will be vaccinated when appropriate for medical condition.
- If patient refuses vaccination for appropriate medical condition, please document refused.
Insurance Coverage and Assessment

- Financial assistance information will display in the last section of the Homeless Patient Discharge Plan standalone form.
- Document written material provided.

For Financial Assistance
We want to help you with getting support to cover your medical expenses. Please call Med Assist

Med Assist
Please contact MedAssist for assistance in screening you for any medical insurance you may qualify for at (831) 759-1911.
Their business hours are Monday 8:30-5:00pm; Tuesday-Friday 8:30-6:00pm. Closed weekends and most holidays.

Comuníquese con MedAssist para recibir asistencia en la evaluación de su seguro médico para el que puede calificar al (831) 759-1911.
Su horario de atención es de lunes 8:30-5:00pm; Martes a viernes 8: 30-6: 00pm. Los fines de semana están cerrado y la mayoría de los días festivos.
In addition to documenting on the Homeless Patient Discharge Plan screen, you must also add the standalone form.

1. Click the **Discharge** button.
2. Click the dropdown in standalone forms.
3. Click the **Homeless Discharge Plan**
4. Click the **OK** button
5. The standalone form will appear in the field, then click the **Save** button to file.
6. The Discharge Packet will now include the Homeless Patient Discharge Plan form.
7. Review packet with patient as appropriate.