

# Standardization Of General Discharge Summaries



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## About The Hospital

● **Hospital Profile** – Narayana Multispecialty Hospital, Jaipur is a multispecialty tertiary care hospital offering high quality affordable medical care to the people of Rajasthan and bordering states.

● It is the first hospital in Rajasthan to get Joint Commission International (JCI) Accreditation for meeting the international Benchmarks in Healthcare.

● Headquartered in the city of Bengaluru, Narayana Health is also a renowned centre for telemedicine; the services rendered are free of cost.

Key specialties offered are Cardiology & Cardiac Surgery, Orthopaedics, Neurology and Renal Sciences.

**Vision & Values** -: Narayana Health's vision is “ To provide high quality health care, with care and compassion, at an affordable cost on a large scale.

Today, Narayana has 31 hospitals in 19 *locations*.

## Introduction

Hospital discharge summaries serve as the primary documents communicating a patient's care plan to the post-hospital care team.

High-quality discharge summaries are generally thought to be essential for promoting patient safety during transitions between care settings, particularly during the initial post-hospital period.

## Problem Statement

Overall, discharge summaries adhere well to Joint Commission discharge summary component standards.

However, given the discharge summary's pivotal communication role in care transitions, even a small frequency of omitted patient discharge condition information is a concern and may affect patient safety.

## Objectives

The Joint Commission mandates that six components be present in discharge summaries.

Despite the critical importance of discharge summaries in care transitions and Patient safety, no studies have examined how well discharge summaries adhere to Joint Commission standards.

The Joint Commission has established standards (Standard IM.6.10, EP 7) outlining the components that each hospital discharge summary should contain six which are:

1. Reason for hospitalization,
2. Significant findings,
3. Procedures and treatment provided,
4. Patient's discharge condition,
5. Patient and family instructions,
6. Attending physician's signature.

## Discharge Summary Requirements

Discharge summaries are a vital part of the patient record.

It demonstrates that the patient, family or other healthcare facility is receiving the information they need to continue appropriate, individualized, quality care after discharge from the hospital.

The regulations require that specific elements be addressed in the discharge summary.

According to the Joint Commission discharge summaries will address, at a minimum, the following 7 :

- Summarization of the hospital clinical course of the patient.
- Dietary instructions, if any.
- Recommended medications.
- Disposition and follow-up recommendations.

- Documentation of pertinent diagnostic findings during the course of the patient's admission.
- Condition of the patient at the time of discharge
- Discharge diagnoses

## Research Questions

What Individual Consultant feel regarding the discharge summary of the patients?

## Mode Of Data Collection

**Location** – Narayana Multispecialty Hospital, Jaipur

**Duration** – 2 months (April 5<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> , 2016)

**Study Type** – Analytical Studies

**Sample Size:** All 17 Department Consultants

**Study Areas** –

1. Consultant Cardiac Surgeon
2. Consultant Neurology
3. Consultant Urology
4. Consultant Orthopaedics
5. Consultant Pulmonologist
6. Consultant E N T
7. Consultant Paediatric Medicine
8. Consultant General Medicine
9. Consultant Gastroenterologist
10. Consultant Nephrology
11. Consultant General Surgeon
12. Consultant Cardiology Paediatric
13. Consultant Rheumatology
14. Consultant Neuro Surgeon
15. Consultant Endocrinologist
16. Consultant Cardiologist
17. Consultant Gynaecologist

**Primary Data**

**Sources Of Data:** Interpersonal Interviews of all 17 Department Consultants. Updating the Discharge Summaries on the basis of Joint Commission Mandated Components and Consensus Definitions.

**Focused Discussion with the Consultant** –

A good amount of Quality data was collected with focussed Discussion with departmental In charges

## Mode Of Data Collection

**Secondary Data** –

Internet Searches, Literatures Review Data Collection Tools & Techniques – Questionnaires

## Data Compilation & Analysis

There are Three Types of Discharge Summaries existing in the hospital.

i **General Discharge Summary**

ii **Leave Against Medical Advice** (L. A. M. A.)

Discharge Against Medical Advice

(D. A. M. A.) Discharge Summary

iii **Death Discharge Summary**

iii) **Death Summary** is formulated inside the department and hence will not be considered in the Generalization of Summaries.

After the Compilation of **General Discharge Summaries** of any one patient of all the Consultants is done, the print of the above General discharge summaries is taken in the form of document.

This **printed Discharge Summaries** is presented to all the Consultants of all the Departments by approaching them individually.

The print of Leave Against Medical Advice is not taken as in Standardisation we will consider General Discharge Summary as the standard.

This document of Leave Against Medical Advice is only for reference purpose for us about the kind of documentation being done before standardization of Discharge summaries.

The Consultants than analysed the above document (Discharge Summaries) and provided their individual inputs to improve the Discharge Summaries.

The Final Inputs of all the Consultants of all the Departments were then finally incorporated in to the document.

A Standardized Discharge Summary of all the Departments was then created of Every Department after taking in to consideration all the Consultants Individual Inputs pertaining to the Department.

The Compiled Form of Final Standardized Discharge Summary as recommended by JCI of all the Departments which was created.

## CONCLUSION

Overall, **Discharge Summaries** adhere well to Joint Commission discharge summary component standards.

However, given the discharge summary's pivotal communication role in care transitions, even a small frequency of omitted patient discharge condition information is a concern and may affect patient safety.

## REFERENCES

- General Discharge Summaries of all consultants of all the departments.  
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