# **Rapid Response Nurses**

The Rapid Response Nursing program provides direct support between hospital discharge and home, for some patients and families dealing with complex conditions. Our goal is to support a successful discharge home, with prompt interventions to avoid an unnecessary return to hospital, and confidence to remain safely at home.

#### Rapid Response Nurses will help patients:

- Understand their health conditions, treatments, how to manage symptoms and when/who to ask for help.
- Understand their hospital discharge plan.
- Reviewing medications to help patients understand the purpose, side effects and how to take prescribed medications correctly.
- Arrange for follow-up medical appointments or tests.
- Connect with their primary care providers, ensuring everyone has the necessary information for follow-up care.
- Receive appropriate home supports as quickly as possible, so they have everything they need at home.

#### **Keeping track of your medications**

You may have heard your doctor say "Medication Reconciliation." This means that you and your health care team work together to keep track of the medications you take.

#### When Does this Happen?

This can happen anywhere in the health care system, such as when you visit the hospital, move from one area of the hospital to another, when you leave the hospital, or visit your doctor or clinic.

**For more information,** contact Home and Community Care Support Services South East at 1-800-668-0901 or 310-2222 (no area code required).



### How to make a medication list:

Include all prescription and non-prescription medications, such as over the counter medications, vitamins and herbal supplements. Also remember to list any allergies you have, including medications, food and environmental.

## **Medication Safety - Helpful Tips**

- Only use one pharmacy.
- Read medication information. Ask questions.
- Throw away old medications.
- Do not use other people's medications.
- Store medications in one place in your home.

#### Your role:

Bring all your medications and medication list to any health care appointments. Keep your list accurate and up-to-date. Ask questions.

#### You were visited by a Rapid Response Nurse:

Name

Date

If you have any other questions about your services, please contact your Care Coordinator:

Name

Phone

Ext. #

