



Share what you know

If you were caring for your loved one before they broke their hip or have spent a lot of time in their company, you probably know more about them than any member of the hospital team. So don't hesitate to share what you know about them with staff as it can help them provide better, safer care. It will also help them get to know your loved one as an individual as well as a patient.

Here are some suggestions of what you could share with the hospital team:

- ✓ What your loved one likes to be called
- ✓ Their personal preferences, including strong likes and dislikes
- ✓ If they have any medical conditions e.g. dementia, diabetes, asthma or heart disease
- ✓ Any recent changes to their health and well-being or behaviour
- ✓ Medication they take including inhalers, over-the-counter medicines and supplements
- ✓ Allergies and dietary requirements
- ✓ Disabilities and mobility problems
- ✓ If they use a walking stick, frame or other aid
- ✓ If they are prone to falling or wandering
- ✓ Vision and hearing problems and if they use spectacles or a hearing aid
- ✓ If they need help in going to the toilet
- ✓ If they have any bladder or bowel problems
- ✓ Their speech and communication needs
- ✓ If they have made an advance decision ('living will') about their future treatment
- ✓ If a doctor has signed an order indicating that they should not be resuscitated in the event of a cardiac arrest
- ✓ If you have a Health and Welfare Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) that allows you to make decisions about their care if they are no longer able to do so for themselves.