

Patient Support Team

Patient Support Teams can include several people who are all important for the patient's care. Your team may include some or all of the following people.

Consider assigning specific roles to people who want to help. On the next page, keep track of their names, phone numbers and email addresses.

Primary Care Manager/Emergency Contact: This person is number one and in charge of hands-on, day-to-day care and arrangements for the patient, often speaking or working on the patient's behalf. This person is often an adult child, spouse, partner, or close relative or friend.

Secondary Care Manager: This person can help the Primary Care Manager by lightening the load, providing breaks, and preventing burnout.

Medical Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care: This person makes health-care decisions for the patient if the patient is unable to make them for himself/herself. Medical Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care is also referred to as a Patient Advocate or Health Care Agent.

Drivers: Drivers take a patient to clinic or laboratory appointments on time. Adult children, relatives, neighbors, friends, or church/community volunteers can all be helpful as drivers.

Pharmacist: A person who can take charge of medications at home. Primary Care Managers usually do this, but a helper can organize medications, make schedules, fill and pick-up prescriptions, and be sure the patient has been taking medications as directed.

Comedian: Assign someone the job of making people laugh. Children and teens, friends and family can bring smiles and laughter to a patient visit, assisting in recovery.

Cooks and Special Helpers: Grocery shopping and meals can be split between people who want to help. Others can assist with laundry, housecleaning, yard work, and pet care.

Exercise Buddies: Family members, teens, neighbors, or friends are great candidates for exercise buddies. With doctor approval, they can walk or exercise with the patient and provide motivation.

Spiritual Caregiver: A Spiritual Caregiver is a great listener and someone who is somewhat removed from the immediate situation. Their main job is to listen, not to advise.

Patient Support Team/Emergency Contact Information

Role	Name(s)	Phone	Email
Primary Care Manager/Emergency Contact			
Secondary Care Manager			
Medical Power of Attorney			
Drivers			
Pharmacist			
Comedian			
Cooks and Special Helpers			
Exercise Buddies			
Spiritual Caregiver			