

Continuum of Care

Recognizing the Home Health Candidate

The people who would benefit from a home health referral are as varied as the people who would benefit from a hospital admission. While a large percentage of patients going home from the hospital qualify for home health services, Baystate Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (BVNAH) also encourages referrals directly from doctors' offices. With the combined services of physical, occupational, and speech therapists, nurses, wound care certified nurses, heart failure nurse specialist, home health aides, and medical social workers, BVNAH covers a broad range of conditions and needs. Below you will find a few profiles of those who should receive a BVNAH home health referral.



Patients Seeking to Shorten an Inpatient Stay

In the home, BVNAH provides many of the services provided by inpatient facilities. Patients, facilities, and payors all have reasons to accelerate safe and appropriate discharges. The continuum of care available through the BVNAH enables early, supported discharge without compromising quality of care. BVNAH will help nurses, doctors, and discharge planners coordinate other community resources such as pharmacy, DME, and home infusion.



Patients Weakened by a Recent Injury or Illness

Causes for weakness include a recent fracture, a prolonged period of bed rest, and a prolonged illness. When the elderly are in these conditions, they present greater risk for fall injuries, and many of them do not reach their previous health condition without intervention. Call BVNAH for home-based programs of gait training, strengthening, conditioning, and post-orthopedic rehabilitation.



Patients and Families Performing Wound Care

When patients need to perform wound care at home, skilled assistance, observation, and assessment are indicated. Your patients will appreciate the caring assistance of BVNAH nurses. While all patients could use some professional guidance for wound care at home, BVNAH also makes wound care certified nurses available for your challenging wounds.



Patients with a Likelihood of not Following Regimen

Many are the geriatric patients who listen to your instructions, agree with you, but do not fully comprehend. Anytime you present a new drug regimen or a new diagnosis to your homebound patient, call BVNAH to reinforce teaching. BVNAH can make repeated visits over a span of weeks to teach in manageable increments, reinforce, and verify adherence to the regimen.



Patients with Fluctuating Lab Values or a Likelihood of Worsening

Order domiciliary observation and assessment for these patients. Examples include patients with abnormal or fluctuating vital signs, healing wounds, edema, a possibility of drug toxicity, and respiratory changes on auscultation. BVNAH can make scheduled and PRN visits to assess mental status, assess edema, record vital signs, pulse ox, continence reports, and much more. BVNAH also supplements scheduled nursing visits with telehealth monitoring when a high intensity of monitoring seems indicated.



Jamie Allsop and Mary Kate Langone

More than 200 Employees Strong

Baystate Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice employs a team of more than 200 caring professionals spanning several disciplines (including nursing, wound care certified nursing, hospice care certified nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, dietitians, and medical social work). Our size and depth of experience prepares us well to respond efficiently and to manage your complicated cases.

*Consider Baystate Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice for your patients.
To make a referral call: 800-249-8298.*