

Interview guide – hospital physicians

Translated from Norwegian

Introduction

- Purpose of the study
- The use and storage of data
- Anonymity
- Duration and structure
- Consent to record the interview

Background information

- Work experience
- Years of experience as physician
- Years working in current position

Discharge practice and organizational structure

1. Can you tell me about factors affecting your decision to discharge a patient?
2. Can you describe a situation where you after, or during a discharge thought that the discharge should have taken place at a later time?
3. How does competence and capacity in the primary healthcare service the patient are going to affect your discharge practice?

Discharge based on collaboration with other occupational groups

4. What cooperation do you, as a hospital physician, have with primary care physicians and with the primary healthcare service in general?
5. Is a decision to discharge a patient solely made by you, ore are others affecting the descicion. If so, who and in what way?

Follow-up questions

How do colleagues (in the same institution or in the primary healthcare service) influence the desicion on discharge?

How do other healthcare professionals (nurses, LPNs) influence discharge decisions?

6. How do you involve other healthcare professionals in discharge decisions?

7. How and by whom do you get information when deciding to discharge a patient?

Patients and next of kin influence in hospital discharges

8. What influence do patients have on decisions to discharge?
9. What influence do next of kin have on decisions to discharge?
10. How do you involve patients and next of kin in decisions to discharge?

Discharges from the hospital with absence of readmissions

11. Based on your experience, what do you think is needed to avoid a hospital readmission after a hospital discharge?
12. There are differences in readmissions rates between municipalities linked to the same hospital. Based on your experience, what do you believe can be the cause of this?
13. What differences do you see, (from the hospitals perspective) between municipalities in patients who are being readmitted?

Follow-up questions

What do you think is the reason?

What measures do you think could be put in place to reduce readmissions?

Adjustment of discharge practice post Coordination reform introduction

14. How do you think the introduction of new regulations in the context of the Coordination reform has affected your discharge practice?

Follow-up questions

In what way do you think the coordination reform has affected your work place?

In what way do you think the Coordination reform has affected your work situation?

15. How does the patients' access to further healthcare after hospital discharge affect your discharge practice?

Follow-up questions

How do access to primary healthcare services post hospital discharge affect decisions to discharge?

How does the patients' social network affect decisions to discharge?

How does the patients' housing situation affect decisions to discharge?

16. Does the patients' municipality of residence (the municipality the patient are going to be discharged to) affect your decision to discharge?

Follow-up questions

What knowledge do you have of the different municipalities healthcare offers?

Summary

17. Is there anything you believe to be relevant to the topic, which has not been addressed in this interview?

- Review of the most important topics appearing during the interview.
- Clarify any potential misunderstandings.
- Additional comments?