



Communicating With Your Nurse

MU Patient Education Series

WHY TALK TO THE NURSE?

Talking to the nurse will allow you to understand what is going on with your plan of care. The best way to improve your care is to communicate with your nurse. Talking to your nurse builds trust, leads to better results, assists with quality and encourages safety. Be involved in your care and communicate with your nurse.

THINGS YOU SHOULD DO:

- List your questions or concerns
- Describe your symptoms
- Provide a list of your medications
- Be truthful about diet, activity, smoking, or drinking
- Ask questions if you have them
- Bring a family member or trusted friend

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK:

- Ask about tests or test results
- What is the plan for my care?
- What are my choices?
- What happens if I refuse?
- What types of medications am I taking?
- Can you tell me about any new or changed medicines?
- Can you explain this test, lab, or exam to me?
- What symptoms should I watch for?
- Can you please provide written instructions, videos, or brochures for me?

It is great to ask questions, but make sure you understand. It may be necessary to bring someone with you to your appointment. Don't be afraid to take notes and ask for further explanation if needed.

DISCLAIMER:

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