



GREY BRUCE HEALTH NETWORK

EVIDENCE-BASED CARE PROGRAM

**COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED
PNEUMONIA**

PATIENT PATHWAY

PROCESS	ADMISSION
PATIENT OUTCOMES	This will help you understand what will happen to you during your stay at the hospital. If you do not understand, please feel free to ask the nurse.
ASSESSMENT	Your temperature, pulse, breathing and blood pressure will be checked. A nurse will listen to your chest and assess your breathing. For the first 24 hours you will be in isolation, which means any visitors or caregivers will wear a mask and protective clothing to prevent the spread of germs.
TESTS	You will have some blood tests done and a chest x-ray taken.
MEDICATIONS	Drugs will be given to you as ordered by your doctor. These will probably include antibiotic(s) and a medication for fever.
TREATMENTS	You will be given oxygen through a face mask or small prongs in your nose if necessary.
NUTRITION	You may eat or drink as you like, unless you require a special diet.
ACTIVITY	You will be encouraged to move as much as possible. Staff will assist you as needed.
EDUCATION	You should discourage visitors with colds or recent infection.
DISCHARGE PLANNING	

PROCESS	PHASE 1 (APPROXIMATELY 2 DAYS)
PATIENT OUTCOMES	You are now starting to breathe and cough easier, and your fever is going down.
ASSESSMENT	Your temperature, pulse, breathing and blood pressure will be checked frequently. A nurse will listen to your chest and assess your breathing every 8 hours, or more often if necessary.
TESTS	
MEDICATIONS	You will continue taking drugs to treat your pneumonia.
TREATMENTS	You will continue to receive oxygen if necessary. Your IV may be stopped, and you may be given oral drugs. A physiotherapist may help you with deep breathing and coughing exercises. You may also need other physiotherapy treatments to help clear your lungs.
NUTRITION	You will be encouraged to drink extra fluids.
ACTIVITY	You will be encouraged to sit in a chair and walk short distances today. Staff will assist you as needed.
EDUCATION	A nurse will review this pathway with you and your family. You will be given a booklet that will help you to understand what is happening when you have pneumonia.
DISCHARGE PLANNING	A Community Care Access Centre Case Manager may talk with you if needed, to plan for your discharge from hospital.

PROCESS	PHASE 2 (APPROXIMATELY 3 DAYS)
PATIENT OUTCOMES	You are now preparing for discharge. Your breathing should be back to normal, your fever gone, and you should be off oxygen by the time you are discharged.
ASSESSMENT	Your temperature, pulse, breathing and blood pressure will be checked. A nurse will listen to your chest and assess your breathing.
TESTS	You may have some blood work and a chest x-ray done.
MEDICATIONS	You will continue taking drugs to treat your pneumonia. Let the nurse know if you are having pain, especially in your chest or after coughing.
TREATMENTS	Your need for oxygen will be reassessed. Continue deep breathing and coughing exercises.
NUTRITION	You should continue to drink extra fluids.
ACTIVITY	You will be encouraged to continue moving and walking as much as possible, increasing your activity level each day in preparation for returning home.
EDUCATION	A nurse will review the booklet on pneumonia with you. You will receive instructions to help you prepare for discharge, including signs and symptoms of pneumonia returning. A pharmacist/nurse may see you if the drugs you took at home before coming to the hospital have changed a great deal.
DISCHARGE PLANNING	A Community Care Access Centre Case Manager may talk with you if needed. You may be discharged if your pneumonia is improving.

PROCESS	DISCHARGE CRITERIA
PATIENT OUTCOMES	You should now understand what to do when you leave the hospital to care for your pneumonia. You should be moving and walking like you did before you had pneumonia.
ASSESSMENT	
TESTS	
MEDICATIONS	You will be given a prescription when discharged. Please take them exactly as ordered by your doctor.
TREATMENTS	
NUTRITION	Continue to drink a lot of water and eat a balanced diet.
ACTIVITY	
EDUCATION	A nurse will review your discharge instructions with you and your family. If you have been instructed to continue to take antibiotics at home, you will be given a discharge prescription. The pharmacy where you buy your prescription will provide information about the antibiotics your doctor has chosen. A nurse will review your Education Booklet regarding recovery.
DISCHARGE PLANNING	You may be referred for oxygen at your home if necessary.