

Hospitalist

May 2009

A hospitalist is a physician who is *specifically trained to manage patient care* while the patient is hospitalized.

The hospitalist has developed a great deal of experience in the unique aspects of a patient's needs during the hospital stay and because they spend most or all of their practice in the hospital, they are more readily available for the patient.

Hospitalists normally will have the specialty of Family Practice or Internal Medicine.

Hospitalist physicians will care for the patient from admission through discharge.

They will regularly communicate appropriate information to the primary care physician and specialists during the hospital stay.

The hospitalists do not replace the primary care or specialist physicians and will not provide follow-up care upon discharge.

Hospitalists will allow the other physicians to be more available in an office or clinic setting for continuing patient care.

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