Review

Review your discharge summary with your health team, a support person and or advocate.

Things to think about include:

- ☐ Do I understand what happened to me in hospital?
- ☐ Do I understand what treatment I need now and in the future?
- ☐ Do I know which medications to take and when?
- ☐ Am I aware of any allergies or bad reactions during my hospital stay and what to do to avoid a repeat episode? Do I know what to do if any health issues reoccur?
- ☐ Do I know when my follow-up appointments are?
- ☐ Does my support network (family, carer, friends) understand my discharge summary?

Request

Before leaving hospital, request a copy of your discharge summary for your records. You may wish to share it with your support network and service providers.

It is a good idea to confirm with your health team:

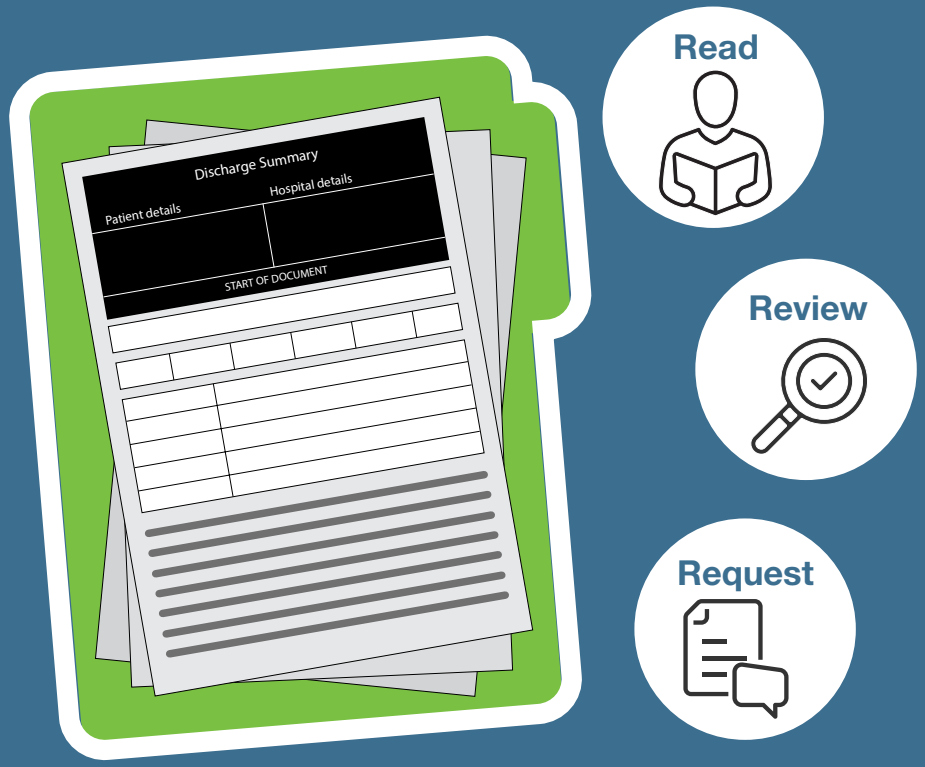
- When your discharge summary will be uploaded to your My Health Record (if you use My Health)
- When your discharge summary will be sent to your GP and or Specialist.

After leaving hospital, if you have **concerns** about the accuracy of the information provided in your discharge summary you can:

- Contact the hospital Patient Liaison Officer and ask they raise your concerns with your health team
- Talk to your GP and or Specialist.

For complex concerns which are not resolved, you can request a copy of your patient file under the Freedom of Information Act.

Your discharge summary



As a patient you can expect to receive a discharge summary before leaving hospital. A discharge summary is prepared by your hospital health team.

A good discharge summary is important because it:

- Provides the medical information to support a smooth and well coordinated transition from hospital
- Reduces the likelihood of readmission.

Before you leave hospital, it is important to:

- Read your discharge summary
- Review your discharge summary
- Request a copy of your discharge summary before leaving hospital.

It is recommended you have a support person or an advocate with you during the review.

The Ready to Go Home project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to **www.dss.gov.au** for more information.

Read

A discharge summary is a brief document covering the clinical information about your hospital experience.

Discharge Summary headings	What the heading means
Problems/Diagnoses	Why you were admitted to hospital
Clinical interventions performed	What medical or surgical procedures were performed
Clinical Synopsis or Clinical Summary	Overview of your medical condition/s while in hospital
Management - Progress	Therapy and programs completed while in hospital
Diagnostic Investigations	The tests completed while you were in hospital
Health Profile – adverse reactions	Any allergies or bad reactions you experienced while in hospital
Medications – current medications on discharge	Current medications you are taking on discharge
Medications – ceased medications	Medications you no longer need to take
Recommendations and information	Instructions about services and appointments which have been arranged for you or you need to make