

Case Study Discussion

Scenario Six

Mr Gregory *, a 85 year old gentleman lives on his own at home. He was admitted with falls and a urinary tract infection and on admission appeared unkempt as if he was unable to care for himself at home. He is due to have an Occupational Therapy assessment prior to discharge. However the Bed Manager visits the ward and advises that he needs to be discharged immediately as his bed is required for an acute admission in A & E. Mr Gregory is put in a taxi and sent home that afternoon with no plans in place for his discharge.

On arrival at his home, the taxi driver finds that Mr Gregory does not have his house keys and can not get into his home. The taxi driver takes Mr Gregory back to the A & E Department in the hospital where he has just left.

Consider:

How will Mr Gregory be feeling?

How will the ward staff be feeling?

What should the nurse in charge have done when the Bed Manager requested that Mr Gregory is discharged immediately?

Draw up a check list of areas for nursing staff to consider when an elderly person is discharged from hospital to ensure a successful transition from hospital to home?

*[NB * Mr Gregory is the patient's full name and his preferred name by which he is called by staff]*