



Date: September 22, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

We are the Pediatric RN Care Coordinators located on Horvitz Tower 5th floor. Our job is to facilitate safe and effective discharge planning to a delicate pediatric patient population.

The patient population that we often care for require tracheostomies, ventilators, and/or gastrostomy tubes. In order to ensure the safety of their wellbeing, these children require 24/7 supervision and care. Home nursing is an essential component required by the medical staff to ensure a safe discharge home. Frequently, discharges are delayed due to the difficulty of finding home nursing staff. Most of this patient population spends months in the hospital even after being medically cleared to go home. This is directly related to the home nursing shortage. Prolonged admissions are known to cause a high risk of infection, delayed milestones, and family distress. Without home nursing, a safe and effective discharge cannot take place, which leaves families unable to take their children home. With equipment dependent patients on the rise due to advancements in medical technology, we continually face this barrier in the discharge process. We hope this letter will help assist in resolving this issue.

Please feel free to contact us at 216-286-4002 should you have any further questions in regards to the statements above.

Sincerely,

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