short term support with long term benefits



What is the Transition Care Program?

The Transition Care Program is jointly funded by the Australian Government and the South Australian Government to provide older people with short term assistance following a hospital stay.

The program provides a range of care services that include therapy, nursing support and/or personal care that will help older people to regain as much independence as possible and assist in making long term care and support arrangements.

HOSPITAL STAY

- You may need further support at the end of your hospital stay.
- You will be assessed by the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) to identify your eligibility for the program.
- A meeting is arranged between you and your Transition Care Program service provider.

TRANSITION CARE PROGRAM

- If you are eligible, you are referred to a Transition Care Program service provider who consults with you, your family and/or carer(s) to develop an agreed Care Plan.
- The program may last up to twelve weeks, with most people receiving support for eight weeks.
- Your Health and Personal Care Plan indicates the best setting for your care.

CARE AT HOME OR RESIDENTIAL SETTING

AFTER COMPLETION OF THE TRANSITION CARE PROGRAM

During the Transition Care
 Program your service provider
 will help you, your family and/or
 carer(s) consider your future
 care and support options.

- Types of care could include personal care, physiotherapy, transport, nursing, speech therapy, social work, occupational therapy. There is also a range of other services.
- The level of support decreases as your level of independence improves.

Am I eligible?

You need to be an older person and

- in hospital and nearing the end of your hospital stay
- able to benefit from a program that will help you improve your recovery and restore your independence as much as possible
- have been assessed by the ACAT as being eligible, and
- wish to be part of the Transition Care Program.

continued overleaf





Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

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Will I need to pay?

The Australian and South Australian Governments will pay the majority of your costs while you receive care. However there is also a daily care fee that you may need to contribute. Your ability to pay fees will be discussed with you but it is important to note that you will not be excluded from the program if you are unable to pay fees.

How much is the fee?

The maximum fees are based on the current single Aged Pension. They are

- Transition Care Program in the home: 17.5% of the basic daily rate of the single Aged Pension
- Transition Care Program in a residential aged care facility: 85% of the basic daily rate of the single Aged Pension.

Your service provider will discuss payment options with you.

What if I am unable to pay the required fee?

If you are unable to pay any fees you will not be excluded from the program.

You are able to apply for fee reduction or fee waiver.

If you wish to apply for this, please let hospital staff or your Transition Care Program service provider know and they will assist you in applying for a fee reduction or fee waiver.

Remember

- There may be fees to participate in the program, however, if you are unable to pay the fees you will not be excluded from the program.
- It is your choice to be involved in the Transition Care Program.
- You need to be assessed by Aged Care Assessment Team to see if you are eligible for the program.
- A range of services will be recommended based on the assessment of your care needs.
- Care can be provided either in your own home or in a residential setting (with a home like environment) according to your care needs.
- Transition Care services can be provided for up to twelve weeks and, on average, people stay on the program for about eight weeks.
- The length of your program will depend on your progress during transition care and your individual care needs.

How do I find out more about the program?

Hospital staff such as an Aboriginal liaison officer, social worker or discharge planner can give you, your family/carer(s) information about the Transition Care Program.