

Supporting our patients and staff in extraordinary times

- 1 The safety and care of all our patients and staff is our primary concern.
- 2 There is a very real risk of contracting COVID-19 in hospital. The risks of remaining in hospital (when you no longer need hospital-based care) are greater than the risks of being at home, even if you have continuing or complex support needs.
- 3 University Hospitals Dorset is supporting all our staff in the actions they take to help patients leave hospital at the earliest possible opportunity.

A **cknowledge** (at the start of the conversation) any fears or concerns that patients and their loved ones may have about leaving hospital.



S **afety** of our patients is our primary concern, and the risk of contracting COVID will be lower at home than in hospital.



P **reparation** for discharge should begin at the point of admission. Ensure patients and their relatives/carers have received the national Hospital Discharge Information leaflets, and review daily whether they meet the Criteria to Reside.



I **nclude** patients, their families and friends in the conversations about the formal and informal support that may be possible when they leave hospital, and explain that we must pursue the first available option.



R **eassure** the patient and relatives/carers that advice and support contact details will be provided on discharge, in case they are required.



E **scalate** to your senior or Clinical Discharge Lead as appropriate, if you have concerns.

