

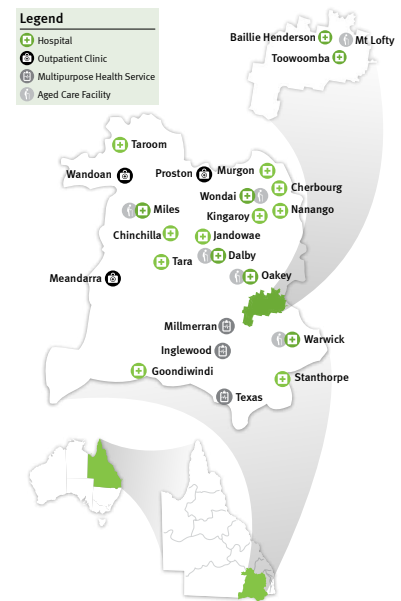
Steps to Home

Welcome

As a busy regional hospital we have many people who require care. When you no longer require acute specialist care, you may be transferred to another hospital within the Darling Downs.

This helps prepare you for going home. International evidence recognises that home is the best place for recovery and support.

Be assured that consistent and excellent healthcare is provided at all of our facilities throughout the Darling Downs. All of our hospitals and facilities follow the same rigorous healthcare standards.



1 When you arrive

Your nurse will collect some information from you/ family/carer to help plan the care you require in hospital and any assistance required on discharge.

Some questions that you will be asked:

- Do you live alone?
- Are you worried about how someone will manage at home when you are in hospital?
- Do you have any help at home now?
- Do you think you will need any extra help when you go home?
- Do you have transport home when you are ready for discharge?

You will be given an estimated discharge date to help you and your family/ carer prepare for your return home.

2 Help plan your care

Each hospital ward has a Nurse or Midwife in charge who is there to help get answers to questions you or your family/carer may have.

During your stay, regular meetings about your care will involve the doctors, nurses and allied health staff (physiotherapists, social workers, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, dieticians and pharmacists). You will be involved in discussing your treatment. You are encouraged to ask questions and voice any concerns you and/or your family may have.

If you require ongoing care, whether in another hospital or at home, staff can discuss options available to you and your family.

3 Transferring or going home

Staff will ensure everything is in place for your discharge/transfer. Discharges normally take place in the morning.

Prior to your discharge/ transfer, staff will provide advice about:

1. What to do if you become unwell at home.
2. Any follow-up appointments with your GP or specialist.
3. Any medications you will be going home with.
4. Any referrals that have been made to a community service.

If you or your family would like more information, do not hesitate in asking your treating team.