

# HOSPITALIST PROGRAM

*For Patient Care at  
Wayne Memorial Hospital*



WAYNE MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL

*An Affiliate of Wayne Memorial Health System, Inc.*

# What Is A Hospitalist?

A Hospitalist is a physician who specializes in caring for patients in the hospital and who usually does not have an outpatient medical practice. Most Hospitalists are general internal medicine physicians. Some Hospitalists are trained as specialists in pulmonary/critical care medicine, cardiology, or other subspecialties.

## When Will I See My Primary Care Physician?

Many primary care physicians refer their patients to a Hospitalist when their patients can no longer be cared for in the outpatient setting. During your hospital stay, you will be seen by a Hospitalist. You will see your regular doctor soon after discharge from the hospital.

## Hospitalists Offer Many Benefits

- *Hospitalists keep a close eye on you.*

In case of emergency, your Hospitalist is never very far. That's because they work in the hospital and will see you more than once a day, if needed. Your Hospitalist knows every specialist and department in the hospital. Hospitalists assist you through a smooth and speedy recovery process by following up on tests and adjusting your treatment regimen throughout the day based on those test results.

- *Hospitalists answer your family's questions.*

Hospitalists are here to provide the answers in person whenever possible. During critical and stressful moments, they provide honest and considerate answers to your questions. Since Hospitalists are in the hospital most of the day, they are able to spend more time talking to you and your family about your care.

- *Hospitalists help your primary care doctor to be more available to you.*

Because Hospitalists are in the hospital all day, your doctor can be with you in the office with fewer delays and interruptions. Your primary care doctor will be able to devote more time to keeping you and your family healthy. For many patients and physicians, working with a Hospitalist team is a win-win proposition. With a physician in the hospital at all hours of the day and night, it's easier for you and your family to communicate about your illness.

## How Does The Hospitalist Know About Me?

Hospitalists talk to primary care physicians on a frequent basis. *At the time of your admission* to the hospital, your primary care physician and Hospitalist communicate about your condition. Your primary care doctor will send over records to provide as much information as possible about your illness. The process is similar to what your physician does when he or she refers you to a specialist for another opinion or for additional tests and treatment.

*During the course of your hospitalization*, your Hospitalist and primary care physician may talk further regarding your treatment.

*At discharge* your Hospitalist will communicate with your primary care physician to discuss further treatment needs, help arrange follow-up, and prescribe the necessary medications. He or she will send your hospital records to your primary care physician.

## We're here to help you get better!

To speak to your hospitalist, ask your nurse to page the hospital doctor.



## Why at Wayne Memorial Hospital?

*“During this time of physician shortage in Pennsylvania and in other areas of our country, the Hospital, in order to better support some of its local doctors, is embarking on a Hospitalist Program. I personally think this will go a long way toward helping some doctors better meet the needs of their patients and see their patients in a more timely manner in their offices.”*

*Dr. Bradley Layton, President  
Medical Staff at Wayne Memorial Hospital*

*“The Hospitalist movement has many advantages for our patients and our community at large. Because they spend more time in the Hospital, Hospitalists can focus all their attention on our patients. They are more easily available. During critical moments, the hospitalist can provide timely treatment and answers to questions.*

*“The hospitalist can also help relieve some of the pressures incurred by our very busy medical staff, who travel from their offices to the Hospital.*

*“And many younger physicians today, coming out of medical residency training, would prefer either to be hospital-focused or office-based. This alone will help WMH recruit and retain physicians at a time when that’s difficult to do, especially in a rural community.”*

*David Hoff, Chief Executive Officer  
Wayne Memorial Health System, Inc.*

For more information,  
visit the website of

the Society of Hospital Medicine at  
[www.hospitalmedicine.org](http://www.hospitalmedicine.org)

or

the federal government’s site at  
[www.medicare.gov/publications/pubs/pdf/hospitalist.pdf](http://www.medicare.gov/publications/pubs/pdf/hospitalist.pdf)



WAYNE  
MEMORIAL  
HEALTH  
SYSTEM,  
INC.

601 Park Street, Honesdale PA 18431  
570-253-8100 • [wmh.org](http://wmh.org)