

## ***Care Type***

Care Type refers to the nature of the clinical service provided to an inpatient during an admitted episode of care. Hospital inpatients are classified according to the care type that best reflects the 'principal clinical intent' or 'treatment goal' of the care being provided. Care types are assigned by the clinician responsible for the management of the patient's care (based on clinical judgement). When the primary clinical purpose of care changes, so must the care type.

The four Care Types applicable to care provided at St Vincent's Private Hospital are:

- Acute (Medical/Surgical)
- Palliative Care
- Rehabilitation
- Nursing Home Type

## ***Daily Accommodation Contribution for Nursing Home Care Type***

When an inpatient is classified as 'nursing home care type', the funding a hospital receives is different to that if an inpatient is classified as 'acute', 'palliative care' or 'rehabilitation'. Nursing home type patients are required to pay a partial contribution fee for their care, as set by the Commonwealth Department of Health. This patient contribution is uninsurable and charged as a daily rate to the patient. This charge applies to patients in both public and private hospitals.

## ***Change of Classification to Nursing Home Care Type***

As an inpatient in St Vincent's Private Hospital, if you are no longer considered to be needing acute, hospital-level care, you (or your next of kin) will be provided with written notice regarding this change and details of the daily patient accommodation contribution charge. This daily charge will be invoiced to you directly. Arrangements can be made to pay by way of EFT, cheque or cash (payment methods are detailed on our invoices). As part of this process, your care type will be changed to 'nursing home type' care and your attending medical officer and clinical/discharge planning team will discuss discharge options with you, your family and/or your carer.

## ***Further information***

Your clinical team will be able to provide you with further details regarding your care type change if needed. Should you wish to discuss the patient contribution charge, or any other charges relating to your admission, please feel free to contact our friendly Patient Accounts team by phone on 6627 9561, or email [patientaccounts@svh.org.au](mailto:patientaccounts@svh.org.au)