The nurse looking after your child, will be happy to go through this with you and may arrange for a Pharmacist to meet with you.

Remember: Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child’s care.

Additional instructions

- **DO** ask for written instructions, if they are not given to you.
- **DO** read all of the instructions and follow them all at home.
- **DO** ask about anything you don’t understand or feel that you need to know.
- **DO** ask for the return of any belongings or medications which may have been stored away for safe keeping while in hospital.

If you have any concerns or questions following your child’s discharge, please contact the ward where your child was a patient and speak with the Nurse in charge.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

**CHI at Crumlin**
01 409 6100

Outpatient Department
01 428 2535 / 428 2528

Admissions Department
OLCHC - 01 428 6128 / 428 6129

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INTRODUCTION

Going home from hospital following your child’s planned procedure or illness, requires some preparation to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

This information sheet lists some helpful things for you to think about when your child is ready for home.

WHEN WILL MY CHILD BE DISCHARGED?

The Consultant and team caring for your child, can give you a possible date for discharge. If your child is still receiving treatment, it might not be possible to provide an exact date, but an estimate may be given to you. You are welcome to ask your child’s discharge plans at any time.

Things that can be arranged when you know your discharge day include:

- Arranging transport home
- Child minding, if needed for other children at home.
- Time off from work, if needed.

WHAT TIME WILL MY CHILD BE DISCHARGED?

Most children are ready to go home in the morning time, especially if you are aware of the possible discharge from the day before.

Occasionally, a child may need to be seen by the medical team, have last dose of medications or blood tests later in the day. If this happens to your child, they may be discharged in the afternoon, evening or at night time. The nurse looking after your child or ward manager, will keep you informed of this.

HELPING US TO HELP YOU

Before going home, please make sure that you know all about your child’s after-care.

- Write down any instructions
- Ask the nurse looking after your child anything you are not certain of

- If equipment or dressings need to be arranged, your nurse will arrange for this through your Public Health Nurse (PHN).
- Any follow up or Out Patients (OPD) appointment, will be arranged for your child prior to discharge.
- If you do not receive this appointment at discharge, an appointment card will be posted out to you.

ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S MEDICATIONS

- Medication is NOT supplied by the hospital
- Please ensure you’ve been given your prescription and know:
  - What your child’s medicine is for?
  - How often they need to take it?
  - How long they need to continue taking it for?
  - Any special instructions on how to administer the medication.

The nurse looking after your child, will be happy to go through this with you and may arrange for a Pharmacist to meet with you.