

Family owned assisted living and memory care in Citrus County

Hospital and Rehab Discharge to Assisted Living Guide

Moving a parent from the hospital or rehab to assisted living

When a parent cannot safely go home, this is the path. It moves fast, so knowing the steps saves days.

Hospital, rehab, or straight to assisted living

After a qualifying hospital stay, Medicare may first cover a short skilled rehab course. When therapy ends, or if rehab is not needed, assisted living is often the next step. Assisted living helps with daily tasks like bathing, dressing, medication, and meals. It is not skilled nursing.

What Medicare covers, briefly

- A skilled rehab stay requires a qualifying inpatient hospital stay of at least three days in a row.
- Coverage runs up to 100 days per benefit period: the first 20 days in full after the deductible, then a daily coinsurance.
- Medicare does not pay for long term assisted living.
- Time spent under observation does not count toward the three day rule. Ask the hospital directly whether your parent is admitted as an inpatient.

The one form that moves with your parent

Florida requires AHCA Form 1823, a health assessment a physician completes, before an assisted living community can accept a resident. Ask the hospital or your parent's doctor to start it early so it does not hold up the discharge.

A fast, safe move, step by step

- ☐ Tell the discharge planner you are looking at assisted living
 - ☐ Tour a community, ideally before discharge day
 - ☐ Ask the physician to complete AHCA Form 1823
 - ☐ Send records and a current medication list to the community
 - ☐ Confirm the room and set the date
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Both Sugarmill Manor and The Gardens welcome families leaving a hospital or rehab stay in Citrus County. Call Sugarmill Manor (352) 382-2531 or The Gardens (352) 794-7601.