



# Speak Up™ About Your Care



## Speak up...

- If you don't understand something or if something doesn't seem right.
- If you speak another language and would like a translator.
- If you need medical forms explained.
- If you think you're being confused with another patient.
- If you don't recognize a medicine or think you're about to get the wrong medicine.
- If you are not getting your medicine or treatment when you should.
- About your allergies and reactions you've had to medicines.



## Pay attention...

- Check identification (ID) badges worn by doctors, nurses and other staff.
- Check the ID badge of anyone who asks to take your newborn baby.
- Don't be afraid to remind doctors and nurses to wash their hands.



## Educate yourself...

- So you can make well-informed decisions about your care.
- Ask doctors and nurses about their training and experience treating your condition.
- Ask for written information about your condition.
- Find out how long treatment should last, and how you should feel during treatment.
- Ask for instruction on how to use your medical equipment.



## Advocates (family members and friends) can help...

- Give advice and support – but they should respect your decisions about the care you want.
- Ask questions, and write down important information and instructions for you.
- Make sure you get the correct medicines and treatments.
- Go over the consent form, so you all understand it.
- Get instructions for follow-up care, and find out who to call if your condition gets worse.



## Know about your new medicine...

