

# Patient Safety

## SpeakUp Campaign

AMMC would like to make your stay in the hospital as safe as possible. We are asking you to play a vital role in making your care safe by becoming an active, involved and informed member of your healthcare team. The following is a list of things that will help us keep you safe:

1. **SpeakUp if you have questions or concerns.**  
You have a right, and we hope you feel comfortable in questioning anyone who is involved with your care.
2. **Make sure that all health professionals involved in your care have your important health information.**  
Keep a list of all your medications and any drug allergies. Do not assume that everyone knows everything they need to. You can never remind us too much of such things as your allergies.
3. **Ask why tests, procedures or medications are being administered.**  
Again, feel free to ask us what we are doing and why. Why this test, procedure or medication is needed and how it can help. This is a safety net for us and for you.
4. **Learn all you can about your condition and treatments by asking the doctor and nurse and by using other reliable sources.**  
We want you to participate in decisions about your treatment. Our facility employs a patient educator, who can obtain health information for you.
5. **While you are in the hospital, ask all visitors and healthcare workers who have direct contact with you to wash their hands.**  
Handwashing is the most important way to prevent the spread of infections in hospitals.
6. **When you are being discharged from the hospital, ask the doctor and nurse to explain the treatment plan you will use at home.**  
This includes learning about your medicines and finding out when you can get back to regular activities. Research shows that at discharge time, doctors think people understand more than they really do about what they should or should not do when they return home. We want you to understand. If not, **please ask.**

## Getting out of bed

Please be very careful getting in and out of bed. Don't hesitate to call a nurse if you feel you need the assistance. Remember the hospital bed is higher than most beds and you may feel weaker and more unsteady than usual. If your

physician has placed you on bed rest, do not try to get up. Ask for assistance, or use your call button.

### **Name Bands**

While you are a patient in our hospital a name band will be applied to your wrist. This name band assists the medical center in providing you with appropriate care. If you are not given an armband or if it gets taken off for some reason, please request your nurse apply another band. This name band should be checked by hospital personnel before any procedure, test or medication.

### **Leaving your floor**

If it is necessary for you to leave the floor and your physician has given consent, please let your nurse know and she will make every effort to arrange for an escort. It is important that your nurse know where you are at all times.

### **Medications**

Take only those medications given to you by your nurse, as they have been ordered by your physician. Medications should not be brought from home. However, if you have them, please notify your nurse.

### **Fire and Disaster Drills**

While you are a patient in our hospital you may be alerted to a fire or disaster drill. Please do not be concerned if you see or hear evidence of such a drill. Drills are held on a routine basis to ensure the maximum safety of our patients. Unless instructed, patients and visitors should remain where they are.