

It's OK to Ask

Please ask questions and talk with your doctors, nurses and other care providers during your office visit. Talking together helps make sure you and your family member get the best care possible. There are several areas that Bronson would like you to pay close attention to:

- **Medications**

- Bring a list of all your medicines, over-the-counter drugs, herbal supplements and vitamins to your appointments every time.
- Ask your doctor for your medication refills during your office visit. This will help make sure you take your medication without any breaks.
- Tell your doctor and nurse about your allergies.
- Ask your doctor about each drug she prescribes and what it is used for. Make sure the doctor writes the name of the drug clearly so you and the pharmacist can read it. Ask to take home written information on why you are taking the medicine and possible side effects.
- Anytime you receive a medicine, shot or intravenous (IV) fluid, the nurse or other provider should ask for your name and birthdate. This makes sure the right medication is given to the right patient.

- **Help Prevent Infections**

- Ask everyone who enters your room to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer. This helps to keep you safe from other people's germs.
- Make sure to get your flu or pneumonia vaccine.

- **Testing**

- Ask your doctor what the tests are for and what to expect.
- Find out how and when you will be told about your test results.
- Call the office if you do not receive your test results when you were expecting them.

- **Pain Management**

- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are uncomfortable or in pain. Most pain can be controlled and will be addressed right away. It is OK to ask again if you feel your pain has not been addressed.

- **Help Prevent Falls**

- Always wear non-skid footwear to your appointment.
- Use office floor mats to wipe wet bottoms of shoes.
- Get up slowly from the exam table or chair to help prevent dizziness.
- When recommended, use a walker, crutches, cane or wheelchair.
- Stand next to your child when they are on the exam table.

Patients and their families are the most important partners on the healthcare team. We want you to ask questions, give information, and help make decisions about your care.