Stay Connected to Your Health with MyChart Patient Portal

Healthcare on your schedule and at your fingertips. Sign up for MyChart today.

Access your health records anytime, anywhere. Whether you’re at home or on-the-go, our new MyChart patient portal keeps your medical information securely stored and readily available to you 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. It even allows your Wellstar healthcare team swift access to vital information at a moment’s notice to help you stay healthy.

MyChart Patient Portal Benefits and Capabilities:
• Safeguard medical information
• Manage your appointments
• Request prescription refills
• View your test results
• Communicate with your provider
• View statements and pay invoices
• Streamline registration
• Store real-time information
• Participate in Share Everywhere

How to Get Started:
You can sign up for a Wellstar MyChart account at any of our Wellstar facilities or register online at mychart.wellstar.org.
• If you have been assigned an activation code, select “Sign Up (I have a code).”
• If you do not have a code, select “Sign Up (I don’t have a code),” and request an activation code. Check your email for your MyChart activation code.

Download the MyChart app from the App Store or Google Play today.

For more information about MyChart, please call the MyChart Help Desk at (470) 644-0419.

Welcome

Welcome to Wellstar Windy Hill Hospital. We are pleased you and your family have selected us to provide your medical care, and we believe we are the best in providing high-quality, safe, patient-centered care.

Our team of dedicated professionals will ensure that, as a patient, you will be treated with respect and involved in your treatment plan. The team will “connect through conversation” to ensure your needs are being met.

If anything does not meet your expectations, please contact Patient Relations at (770) 644-1080. I also am always happy to hear from you. Thank you for choosing Wellstar Windy Hill Hospital.

Best wishes for your health and well-being.

Sincerely,
Caswell Samms, Hospital Vice President & Operations Leader
Wellstar Windy Hill Hospital
caswell.samms@wellstar.org
Calling from inside the hospital? Dial the LAST FIVE DIGITS only.

**Key Numbers:**
- Main: (770) 644-1000
- Care Coordination: (770) 644-1525 or (770) 644-1025
- Patient Relations/Concerns: (770) 644-1080
- Rapid Response: Ext. 41341

**Other Hospital Services:**
- Administration: (770) 644-1080
- Spiritual Health: (770) 583-9394 or (770) 793-5005
- Admitting: (770) 644-1431
- Patient Account Services: (770) 644-1172
- Case Management: (770) 644-1525
- Patient Relations/Concerns: (770) 644-1080
- Environmental Services: (470) 245-2683
- PCU
  - 1st Floor: (770) 644-1430
  - 3rd Floor: (770) 644-1330
- Food Service: (770) 644-1030
- Rehab Services: (770) 644-1560
- Gift Shop: (770) 644-1027
- Security: (770) 644-1156
- Outpatient Surgery: (770) 644-1414
- Volunteer Department: (770) 793-7120
- Nutrition & Food Services: (770) 793-5354
- Wellstar Health Place Fitness Center: (770) 793-7300
- Pastoral Care: (770) 793-5005
- Women’s Shoppe: (770) 793-8004

Before you leave our care, you may receive a survey asking about your experience. This survey is a tool to measure and report patient satisfaction. It’s made up of simple questions on key topics, such as:

- Doctor and nurse communication
- Medicine and discharge information
- Staff responsiveness
- Overall quality of the hospital environment

If you’re selected to receive this brief survey, please take the time to complete it. The results will help us know what we’re doing right and where we can improve.
Your Guide to the Most Frequently Asked Questions

**ATM**
Located in the Solarium on the first floor next to the vending machines.

**Café**
Located on the lower level.
**Monday through Friday Hours:**
- Breakfast: 7 AM – 8:45 AM
- Lunch: 11 AM – 1:30 PM

**Saturday and Sunday Hours:**
- Breakfast: 7 AM – 8 AM
- Lunch: 11:30 AM – 1 PM

**Calling Your Nurse**
Your room is connected to the nursing station via an intercom system. To call for your nurse, press the NURSE call button located on your bed, or call the extension posted in your room. Each room has a whiteboard with the name and phone number of your nurse. If you have any questions on how to use the call button, please ask a staff member for assistance.

**CaringBridge**
CaringBridge is an online platform to update family and friends during your hospital stay. Visit caringbridge.org and follow the instructions to create a personalized webpage.

**Cellphones**
In most areas, cellphone use is allowed. The use of video, audio and camera devices is prohibited. Please keep your cellphone on silent or vibrate while in the hospital.

**Chapel**
For spiritual reflection and meditation, an interfaith chapel is available on the second floor.

**Environmental Services**
Your room is cleaned daily. To conserve water and energy, your bed linens will be changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, or as needed. If there is a housekeeping concern in your room, please tell your nurse or call (470) 245-2683.

**Gift Shop**
The Gift Shop at Windy Hill has gift items, jewelry, greeting cards, candy and toiletries. A portion of every purchase is donated to support the Wellstar Foundation. For more information about the gift shop, call (770) 644-1027.

**Hearing/Visually Impaired and Interpreters**
To ensure good communication, we have devices and services available for use during your stay. We also have access to interpreters for many languages. Please let your nurse know if you need these services.

**Hourly Rounding**
You will be visited by one of your caregivers every hour between 6 AM and 10 PM and every two hours from 10 PM to 6 AM. When we visit, we will check on your comfort and pain, help you move or change positions, and address anything else you need.

**Internet**
Free wireless internet service is available in public areas.

**Leaving Your Unit**
While a patient in our facility, we ask that you remain on your unit. Never leave the unit without discussing it with the nursing staff. A member of the hospital staff will escort you whenever you leave your medical unit for a procedure or any other reason.

**Lost and Found**
For lost items, call the Security Department at (770) 644-1156.
Mail and Flowers
Mail, packages and flowers will be delivered to you by a hospital volunteer. Mail received after you leave the hospital will be forwarded to your home.

Medicines
Please leave prescription and over-the-counter medicines at home. All medicines you take in the hospital need to be prescribed, filled and given to you by hospital staff. Tell your doctor about any medicines you regularly take. If you still need them, hospital staff will give them to you.

Parking
Parking for patients and visitors is available in the front main lot. If you need assistance with your vehicle or would like an escort to your car at night, please call the Security Department at (770) 644-1156.

Pharmacy
Main floor of the Medical Building
Hours:  Monday through Friday: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM
        Saturday and Sunday: Closed

The pharmacy carries a variety of over-the-counter medicines and personal care items. For more information, call (770) 644-1005.

Safety Drills
We conduct safety drills from time to time. If you hear an alarm, stay where you are. In an actual emergency, hospital staff will tell you what to do.

Security and Valuables
Security can be reached at (770) 644-1156. We recommend you leave valuables at home. If you cannot send them home, we can store your valuables in a safe. Please notify your nurse to request this service. The hospital shall not be liable for any loss, damage or breakage of valuables.

Telephone
For local calls, dial 9 and then the phone number. For long-distance and toll calls, dial 9-0 and the number. Patient rooms can be reached directly by dialing (770) 644-1 and then the room number.

Tobacco Free
All Wellstar locations are tobacco-free environments. Tobacco use is not permitted anywhere on Wellstar property. Patients are not allowed to leave the facility to smoke or use other tobacco products. If you are a smoker/tobacco user, you can ask your nurse or doctor about nicotine replacements.

TV
Each patient room has a television. Please be considerate of others by keeping the volume down and turning off your TV at bedtime. TVs are controlled by the bedside pillow speaker or side rail controls. Closed captioning is available for the hearing impaired.

Vending Machines
Find cold beverages and snacks 24-hours a day at the vending machines, located near the Solarium directly behind Windy Hill Café.

Visitor Information
Visitors can be good medicine for patients. Family members and friends are welcome to visit. Please check with your nurse about visiting guidelines.

Visitor Guidelines
To provide a restful and safe environment, we ask that visitors follow these guidelines:

• Do not smoke in patient rooms or anywhere inside the hospital.
• Please dress appropriately and wear shirts and shoes.
• Do not visit if you have a cold, sore throat or any contagious disease.
• Follow hand hygiene procedures.
• Maintain a quiet environment and avoid unnecessary noise.
Fast Facts About Your Stay

• You may be asked to leave the room during tests or treatments, or when the doctor or nurse needs to see the patient.
• Visit lengths depend on the patient’s condition.
• Certain inpatient areas may restrict children or limit the age of children allowed to visit. Please check with the nursing staff. Where allowed, children are welcome to visit but should be supervised and quiet at all times.
• Alcohol, illegal drugs and firearms are not allowed.

When visiting, please be sensitive to the patient’s needs.

Long-Term Acute Care (LTAC) Visiting Guidelines
Visiting hours are 9 AM to 9 PM. Extended visiting hours are permitted for special circumstances. If you are staying past 9 PM, please stop by the Security kiosk at the main entrance for a badge.

• Children under age 12 are welcome, but prior arrangements must be made.
• Children must be free from infections and accompanied by an adult.
• Overnight visitation for one visitor is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, depending on the daily plan of care and the patient’s best interest.

Waiting Areas
Waiting areas for visitors are on each patient floor and on the main floor in the lobby. During certain hours, a volunteer is on duty in the surgery waiting room to keep family members informed about a patient’s progress.

No photos or recordings allowed on this unit.
Superbugs

A “superbug” is a bacterial, viral or fungal pathogen resistant to usual treatments. When superbugs cause infections, there is potential for the infection to last longer and result in serious complications. A few well known “superbugs” include MRSA, ESBL, VRE and CRE. Superbugs may spread from person to person through touching hands or contaminated objects. The best way to prevent the spread of germs is by performing good hand hygiene. Remember, clean your hands thoroughly and often. During your stay, politely remind visitors and healthcare personnel to clean their hands with the readily available alcohol hand sanitizer or soap and water.

Common Hospital Infections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>How It Starts</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Prevention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (UTIs)</td>
<td>Germs enter your urinary tract when you have a tube (catheter) to drain urine.</td>
<td>• Fever&lt;br&gt;• Burning&lt;br&gt;• Pain&lt;br&gt;• Bloody or frequent urination</td>
<td>• Clean hands before touching the area.&lt;br&gt;• Keep your urine bag below the level of your bladder to prevent backflow.&lt;br&gt;• Don’t tug, pull, twist or bend the tube.&lt;br&gt;• Secure the catheter to your leg and ask every day if it’s still needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical site infections</td>
<td>Germs affect the site of your surgery – either on your skin or internally.</td>
<td>• Redness&lt;br&gt;• Pain&lt;br&gt;• Drainage of cloudy fluid&lt;br&gt;• Fever</td>
<td>• Do not shave surgery site (irritation increases risk of infection).&lt;br&gt;• Clean hands before touching area.&lt;br&gt;• Don’t let visitors touch or dress your wound.&lt;br&gt;• Ask your nurse to show you how to care for your wound.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central line-associated bloodstream infections</td>
<td>Germs enter your bloodstream through a large tube that’s inserted in a vein near your neck, chest or groin.</td>
<td>• Red skin and soreness at site&lt;br&gt;• Fever&lt;br&gt;• Chills</td>
<td>• Clean hands before touching the area.&lt;br&gt;• Make sure staff wears gloves, gown, cap, mask and sterile drape when handling the tube.&lt;br&gt;• Speak up if your bandage comes off, looks wet or dirty, or if your skin looks sore.&lt;br&gt;• Avoid touching the tube or letting visitors touch it.&lt;br&gt;• Ask that the tube be removed as soon as possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ventilator-associated pneumonia</td>
<td>Germs enter your lungs through a tube in your mouth, nose or neck used to help you breathe.</td>
<td>• Cough&lt;br&gt;• Mucus&lt;br&gt;• Fever&lt;br&gt;• Chills&lt;br&gt;• Shortness of breath</td>
<td>• Clean hands before touching the area.&lt;br&gt;• Ask if it’s safe to raise the head of your bed.&lt;br&gt;• Know how often the inside of your mouth needs to be cleaned and speak up when it hasn’t happened.&lt;br&gt;• Ask that the tube be removed as soon as possible.</td>
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</table>
5 Ways to Fight Infection

The hospital is a place you come to get well, but you also can come in contact with germs that can make you feel worse. Reduce your chances of infection by taking these safety precautions.

1. **Clean your hands.**
   • After touching hospital objects or surfaces
   • Before eating
   • After using the restroom

2. **Ask hospital staff members to clean their hands.**
   This should be standard practice, but don’t be afraid to remind them if they forget or to ask them to wear gloves when touching you. Ask visitors to clean their hands too!

3. **Cover if you are sick.**
   If you get an infection, limit the spread of germs by sneezing and coughing into tissues you promptly throw away, and avoid touching other people. Ask the staff if there is anything else you should do—like wear a surgical mask—to prevent the spread of germs.

4. **Keep an eye on bandages or dressings.**
   If a dressing on a wound or IV becomes loose or wet, let your nurse know. Also, if you have a catheter or drainage tube, tell your nurse if it becomes loose or dislodged.

5. **Keep your vaccinations up-to-date.**
   Make sure you are as protected as possible from the spread of infection. Check with hospital staff about whether it’s safe for you to receive any vaccines you might need.

Cleaning Tip:

Use soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer under your nails, in between your fingers, and on the palms and backs of your hands. Rub for 20 seconds (the time it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” twice).

For Visitors: Tell friends and family not to visit if they are sick. Make sure all your guests wash their hands when they enter your room.

Recognize a Great Caregiver

Three easy ways to give recognition:

**WOW**
Send your caregiver a quick note acknowledging a small act of kindness. Just ask for a WOW form.

**Shining Star**
Wellstar regularly honors its Shining Stars—team members who go the extra mile in providing stellar service. Write a note about who gave you great care and what they did, and give it to your charge nurse. This recognition means so much to our healthcare providers.

**The Daisy Award**
The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate care given by nurses. We are proud to be a DAISY Award Partner, recognizing one of our nurses with this special honor quarterly. Look for nomination forms and collection boxes throughout the hospital.

**Become a Wellstar Volunteer**

Working diligently in virtually every area of our hospital, volunteers are our extra hands and hearts! They play the harp and the piano, provide pet therapy, sing, knit, encourage, care, help, smile, serve tea, hold hands, garden and push wheelchairs.

• Wellstar’s 1,100 volunteers work more than 200,000 hours a year, representing $3.6 million in donated time.
• Wellstar volunteers also raise money—more than $773,000 each year, helping us buy needed equipment, renovate facilities and educate our patients.

Ready to make a difference? Call (470) 732-3605 or visit wellstar.org and click on volunteers.
Understanding Your Bill

What You Need to Know
Your bill reflects all the services you received during your stay. Charges fall into two categories: a basic daily rate, which includes your room, meals, nursing care, housekeeping, telephone and television and charges for special services, which include items your physician orders for you, such as X-rays, laboratory tests and surgical services. Payment of an estimated out-of-pocket account balance is due at the time Wellstar services are rendered. If you’re an outpatient/observation patient, please carefully review your Medicare benefits and take note that they differ from inpatient benefits. If you have questions or want to make payment arrangements, please call ext. 23724 and a patient access representative will assist you.

If You Have Health Insurance
We will need a copy of your insurance identification card. We also may need the insurance forms, which are supplied by your employer or the insurance company.

If You Are a Member of an HMO or PPO
Your plan may have special requirements, such as a second surgical opinion or pre-certification for certain tests or procedures.

You are fully responsible for ensuring that the requirements of your insurance plan have been met. Otherwise, you may assume financial responsibility for the payment of all or an increased portion of charges related to the hospital services rendered. Some physician specialists may not participate in your healthcare plan and their services may not be covered. Deductibles and co-payments also are the responsibility of the patient.

If You Are Covered by Medicaid
We will need a copy of your Medicaid card. Medicaid also has payment limitations on a number of services and items. Medicaid does not pay for the cost of a private room, unless medically necessary.

If You Do Not Have Insurance Coverage
If you are unable to present any evidence of healthcare insurance coverage, you then will assume full financial responsibility for payment of all the charges incurred during your stay. A representative from the Patient Access Services Department will help you establish appropriate financial arrangements. In some cases, based on the information provided, patients may apply for other types of financial assistance programs.

Professional Services
If you have certain tests or treatments in the hospital, you may receive bills from physicians you did not see in person. These bills are for professional services ordered by your admitting physician, rendered by these physicians in diagnosing and interpreting test results while you were a patient. Pathologists, radiologists, cardiologists, anesthesiologists and other specialists perform these services and are required to submit separate bills. These physicians may not be participating providers in your insurance plan. It is your responsibility to seek information regarding which physicians may or may not be participating. If you have questions about these bills, please call the number printed on the statement you receive.

Wellstar Customer Service Department
Please contact us concerning:
• Paying your balance
• Setting up payment plans
• Questions regarding statements

To reach us by phone:
(470) 245-9998 or (470) 644-7113

To reach us by email:
online.account@wellstar.org

Online bill payments can be made at:
wellstar.org/billpay
Fill out this list with hospital staff to double-check you’re taking your medicines correctly and that they’re safe to take together. Include over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and supplements.

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Our Commitment to Care

How’s your stay? Are you getting the care you need? Are your doctors and nurses listening and responding to your questions or requests? Our goal is to provide the best quality care. To do so, we ask for feedback from patients like you.

During Your Stay
Please speak with your nurse or nursing supervisor if you have any questions or concerns about your care. If your issue still is not resolved, then contact Patient Experience at (470) 644-7125. You also have the right to file your complaint with either:

Georgia Department of Public Health
2 Peachtree St. NW, 15th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 657-2700

Office of Quality and Patient Safety
The Joint Commission
One Renaissance Blvd.
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
Fax: (630) 792-5636
Website: www.jointcommission.org,
then click “Report a Patient Safety Event”

Medicare and Medicaid
To file a complaint with Medicare:
Go to medicare.gov and click the Claims & Appeals tab for more information.

To file a complaint with Medicaid:
Contact the Georgia Department of Community Health’s Customer Service department at (404) 657-5726 or 5728.

Want to know how we score?
You can review and compare the quality, care and safety ratings for different hospitals at: Medicare Hospital Compare, which uses HCAHPS results and other data:
www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/search.html

You also can find information on hospitals through these accrediting organizations:
• Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP): www.hfap.org
• DNV GL Healthcare: www.dnvglhealthcare.com
• The Joint Commission: www.qualitycheck.org

Rights and Responsibilities

You, as the patient, have the right to...

Access to Care
Impartial access to treatment or accommodations that are available or medically indicated regardless of color, age, disability, race, creed, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.

Respect and Dignity
Considerate, respectful care at all times and under all circumstances, including reasonable attempts to respect spiritual, religious or cultural beliefs and practices and to make efforts to accommodate whenever possible.

Privacy and Confidentiality
Expect that your personal health information will be protected according to legal and ethical standards related to privacy, security and confidentiality.

Be interviewed, examined and treated in surroundings designed to provide a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Expect that your personal privacy will be respected by: closing doors, curtains and providing adequate coverings/draping to limit patient exposure, knocking or announcing oneself prior to entering patient treatment room/curtained area.

Respect the presence of one’s own gender during certain parts of a physical examination, treatment or procedure done by someone of the opposite sex. (Home care: Patient care is delivered in the privacy of the client’s environment. Patient privacy and confidentiality are taken into consideration when care is rendered. When requested by the patient, efforts will be made to arrange for staff of same gender.)

Expect that conversations/interviews related to your care will occur in an area designed to provide privacy and include only those with a specific “need to know.” If information is considered to be of a sensitive or personal nature, the patient will be taken to a private area prior to discussing/obtaining such information.

Expect that protected health information that is displayed/posted in publicly accessible areas will be limited to the minimum amount necessary for the permitted purpose (i.e., limit information posted outside treatment room to name only; limit information on sign-in logs to time, patient name and physician name).

Have your medical records accessed and discussed only by those directly involved in your care, in the monitoring of the quality of care or those so designated by the patient.
Request the right of access to review, inspect and obtain a copy of your protected health information and have this information explained, except when restricted by state or federal law.

**Participate in Treatment Decisions**
Be informed and participate in decisions concerning your care.

Be given a clear and understandable explanation of procedures, including the reason why a procedure is needed, the risks and benefits, probability of success and possible alternatives.

Complete an advance directive to indicate your treatment preferences should you become unable to make your own decisions in the future.

Refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law.

Be informed of any research activities that affect your care and to choose voluntarily to participate. Refusal to participate will not compromise care.

**Personal Safety**
Expect safety related to hospital and office practices and environment.

**Access Community Protective Services**
Request and be assisted in the contact of advocacy or protective service agencies if you are being neglected or abused in your home and/or need outside support.

**Information**
Be informed about your illness, possible treatments and likely outcome.

Know the names and roles of caregivers.

Know the relationship the hospital and/or physician has with outside parties (such as healthcare providers or insurers) that may influence your treatment and care.

Be informed of actual outcomes, including unanticipated outcomes.

**Pain Management**
Expect appropriate assessment and management of pain.

**Ethical Standards**
Expect that high ethical standards be followed in providing your care. Whenever conflicts arise, a mechanism has been established to assist you, your family and caregivers to help resolve any ethical issues surrounding care.

**Transfer and Continuity of Care**
Expect that the physician and/or the hospital will provide necessary health services to the best of their ability. If a transfer is recommended, you will be informed of the benefits and the alternatives. You will not be transferred without your consent and until the other institution and/or physician agrees to accept you.

**Understand Charges**
Be billed fairly for those services provided.

Request an itemized bill for services rendered.

Ask questions and receive assistance in understanding charges and payment methods.

Receive timely notice prior to termination of eligibility for reimbursement by any third-party payer for the cost of care.

**Understand Rules and Regulations**
Know about Wellstar Health System rules that affect your treatment.

**Concerns?**
If you have concerns about the care you or your loved one is receiving, please speak with your doctor or nursing supervisor. If you feel your issue isn’t resolved, contact Patient Relations at (770) 644-1080.

**You, as the patient, have the responsibility to...**
Provide caregivers with accurate and complete information about your health and convey understanding of what is expected in regard to your treatment.

Inform care providers of any safety issues that need attention.

Comply with instructions for your treatment plan. If you believe that you cannot follow through with treatment, you are responsible for telling your physician.

Comply with your hospital or office rules and regulations.

Meet your financial obligations as promptly as possible.

Be considerate of the rights of other patients and personnel in the control of noise, number of visitors and the respect of property.

Wellstar Health System is pleased you selected us as your healthcare provider. We strive to ensure your healthcare experience exceeds your expectations. Our goal is to provide you with world-class healthcare.
Your Privacy Matters
You have privacy rights under a federal law that protects your health information. This law sets rules and limits on who can look at and receive your health information. These rights are important for you to know.

Who must follow this law?
Most doctors, nurses, pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and many other healthcare providers and their vendors.

Health insurance companies, HMOs and most employer group health plans.

Certain government programs that pay for healthcare, such as Medicare and Medicaid.

What information is protected?
Information your doctors, nurses and other healthcare providers put in your medical records.

Conversations your doctor has with nurses and others regarding your care or treatment.

Information about you in your health insurer’s computer system.

Billing information about you at your clinic.

Most other health information about you held by those who must follow this law.

What rights do you have over your health information?

Providers and health insurers must comply with your right to:
Ask to see and get a copy of your health records.

Have corrections added to your health information.

Receive a notice that tells you how your health information may be used and shared.

Decide if you want to give your permission before your health information can be used or shared for certain purposes, such as for marketing.

Get a report on when and why your health information was shared for certain purposes.

File a complaint.

What are the rules and limits on who can see and receive your health information?

To make sure that your health information is protected in a way that doesn’t interfere with your healthcare, your information can be used and shared:
For your treatment and care coordination.

To pay doctors and hospitals for your healthcare and help run their businesses.

With your family, relatives, friends or others you identify who are involved with your healthcare or your healthcare bills, unless you object.

To make sure doctors give good care and nursing homes are clean and safe.

To protect the public’s health, such as by reporting when the flu is in your area.

To make required reports to the police, such as reporting gunshot wounds.

Without your written permission, your provider cannot:

Give your health information to your employer.

Use or share your health information for marketing or advertising purposes.

Share private notes about your mental health counseling sessions.

If you believe your health information has been shared inappropriately, please contact Wellstar’s Privacy/Security Helpline at (470) 644-0444.

Right to Complain
If you believe your rights are being denied or your health information isn’t being protected, you can file a complaint with your provider, health insurer or the U.S. government at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf.
Advance Directives

One of the most important decisions you can make about your healthcare is to complete an advance directive. Advance directives are legal documents that let your family and healthcare providers know your wishes regarding the type of care you want to receive, especially at the end of life. Advance directives do not go into effect until you are unable to speak for yourself.

Georgia Advance Directive for Healthcare

The Georgia Advance Directive for Healthcare is one document with two components: the living will and the healthcare agent.

The living will section outlines your preferences for the medical treatments you do or do not want to receive at the end of your life. It can include your wishes about CPR (if your heart stops), mechanical breathing (if you stop breathing), and/or artificial nutrition and hydration (what to do if you cannot eat or drink by mouth).

The healthcare agent section allows you to appoint someone as your healthcare agent (HCA). This individual should know your healthcare wishes and who you elect to make medical decisions on your behalf if you are unable. It is important that you choose someone you trust, whether it is a family member or close friend.

Fill Out Your Forms

Bring a copy of your advance directives with you the day of your procedure so your most current information and wishes are on file. You do not need a lawyer to fill these out. For more information and to get a Georgia Advance Directive for Healthcare planning guide and documents, please talk with anyone on your healthcare team.

Resources

A copy of the Georgia Advance Directive for Healthcare and other helpful resources can be found at www.wellstar.org/advancecareplanning.

If you would like to meet with a trained advance care planning facilitator or if you have questions, please call (470) 956-5812 or email acp@wellstar.org.