

Bill 7 – More Beds, Better Care Act, 2022

1. Can I wait in the hospital for a long-term care home?

Hospitals are not long-term homes and are not designed to await long-term care. There is evidence that while you wait in the hospital without the social and recreational supports provided in settings such as long-term care, you could be at risk for physical and cognitive decline. You may also be at risk for hospital-based infections.

2. What is Baycrest's position on the *More Beds, Better Care Act, 2022* (Bill 7)?

Baycrest is committed to ensuring our patients receive the right care, in the right place at the right time. This means we are committed to supporting everyone impacted as this legislation proceeds. At Baycrest, we work to ensure the health and safety of everyone we care for, including those in the hospital today and those who urgently await hospital care.

3. What is Baycrest doing with regard to this legislation?

Patients who are appropriate for a status of Alternative Level of Care (ALC) with a plan for long-term care, will be encouraged to choose two homes with a short waiting list (as determined by Home and Community Care Support Services) or an empty bed.

Patients who have a status of appropriate for an ALC, must have an eligibility assessment completed to indicate if they are appropriate to receive care in a long-term care home. Patients who do not consent to participate in the eligibility assessment will have information from their hospital records used to evaluate long-term care home eligibility. This includes cases where, despite reasonable efforts, patient consent for release of information has not been obtained.

Patients who choose not to engage with a Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS) care coordinator for placement-related decisions will have a long-term care home selected on their behalf, taking the following into consideration:

- The patient's condition and circumstances,
- The class of accommodation requested by the patient (private vs semi-private),
- The proximity of the home.

Effective November 20, 2022 patients who have met their goals for admission and are given a discharge date, and refuse to leave the hospital will be charged a fee of \$400 per day beginning 24-hours after this date. Additionally, patients who receive a bed offer to a long-term care home, and refuse the bed offer,

will be charged a fee of \$400 per day beginning 24-hours after the date of transfer if the patient remains in the hospital.

4. What does it mean for me?

Any patient who has an anticipated discharge or who is currently ALC for long-term care can expect a follow-up conversation with their social worker within five business days. At Baycrest, we work to ensure the health and safety of everyone we care for, including those in the hospital today and those who urgently await hospital care.

5. Who should I contact if I have questions about this?

If you have questions about this government update and changes regarding your patient's status, please speak to your social worker.

6. If I have already made short choices, will I be impacted?

No, if you have been accepted to a long-term care home with a short waiting list and this has been confirmed by a HCCSS care coordinator you will not be affected by this change.

7. What if I cannot pay the \$400 per diem?

The per diem of \$400 a day has been set by the new government legislation. Baycrest is not able to reduce the daily charge.

For those incurring the daily per diem, bills will be provided on a weekly basis. Additionally, the co-payment will continue on a monthly basis.

Our team will continue to work with you regarding the transition to long-term care to wait for your preferred choice, or to work with you to organize support for home care.

8. What if I do not agree to short stay choices, does the Social Worker then pick my short stay location?

No, the social worker will not select a patient's short stay location. The Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS) care coordinator will make the decisions on behalf of the patient.

9. What if I have specific religious, cultural or language requirements?

Patient requirements, including religion, cultural needs and language, should be considered when selecting LTC homes in a balanced way, in conjunction with other requirements set out in the Regulation (that is, care needs, geographic proximity, and accommodation type). Please discuss with the HCCSS care coordinator.

10. What is meant by a 24-hour waiting period?

Effective November 20, 2022 patients who have met their goals for admission and are given a discharge date, and refuse to leave the hospital will be charged a fee of \$400 per day beginning 24-hours after this date. Additionally, patients who receive a bed offer to a long-term care home, and refuse the bed offer, will be charged a fee of \$400 per day beginning 24-hours after the date of transfer if the patient remains in the hospital.

10. How far away from my preferred location might the short wait list LTCH choices be?

Under the legislation, you may be asked to select a short wait list long-term care home choice up to 70 km from your preferred location in Southern Ontario.

11. What if I am on the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged waitlist?

Depending on the accommodation selected the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged may or may not qualify as a short-waiting long-term care home. Please follow-up with your HCCSS care coordinator for more information.

12. Will I be transferred to my first choice long-term care home if a bed becomes available?

After you transfer to a long-term care home with a short waiting list that is not your first choice, you will be able to remain on the waiting list for your preferred long-term care homes that you selected. A bed offer will be made when it becomes available.

Resources

[Home and Community Care Support Services \(HCCSS\)](#) - “Transitioning from Hospital to Long-term care”

<https://healthcareathome.ca/document/transitioning-from-hospital-to-long-term-care-english/>

[The Right Care in the Right Place: An Open Letter on Bill 7](#)

Government of Ontario [*Plan to Stay Open - Health System Stability and Recover*](#)

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/plan-stay-open-health-system-stability-and-recovery>