

Four Types of Patient Transitions

- **The transition of patients within settings in one provider organization.** This may be a transition from the intensive care unit to a bed on a regular unit or from the emergency department to the ICU within the same hospital.
- **Transition between settings from one organization to another.** This includes patients moving from a hospital to a subacute setting or skilled nursing facility or from an ambulatory care clinic to a hospital setting.
- **Transition across health states.** This is when patients move from one care setting to another to meet their care needs as their health conditions or interests change. For example, moving from assisted living to a skilled nursing home or from acute care to a hospital or palliative care.
- **Transition between providers,** such as a transition from a primary care physician to a specialty physician — for instance, from an internist to a cardiologist or surgeon.

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