

## Improving the discharge process by embedding a discharge facilitator in a resident team.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/improving-discharge-process-embedding-discharge-facilitator-resident-team>

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The disturbingly high incidence of readmissions after hospital discharge remains a national policy priority, as many readmissions can be linked to [adverse events after discharge](#). In this study, a nurse practitioner (NP) was assigned to a resident inpatient medical team at a tertiary care hospital, with the specific responsibility of facilitating the discharge process. The NP's responsibilities included arranging follow-up appointments, performing [medication reconciliation](#), and following up on [tests pending at discharge](#). Although NP discharge facilitation achieved improved patient satisfaction with the discharge process, higher rates of timely outpatient follow-up, and improved resident [work efficiency](#), it did not result in fewer readmissions or emergency department visits in the post-discharge period. The complex nature of preventing readmissions is discussed in an AHRQ WebM&M interview with [Dr. Eric Coleman](#).