



TOP 5 PATIENT SAFETY TIPS



1. PREVENTING DIAGNOSTIC ERRORS



Write down all your symptoms so you don't forget important information



Know your medical history and medications - some conditions are hereditary



Ask medical professionals about further testing to determine diagnosis



Seek a second opinion if you feel your diagnosis might be incorrect

2. OPIOID SAFETY



Ask about non-opioid pain management options



Double-check dosage with nurses and doctors and compare to the prescribed dose after being discharged from hospital



Ask healthcare team for tips on safe opioid use

3. PROPER COMMUNICATION



Healthcare providers should communicate your medication regimen, treatment, and follow-up care amongst each other - ask if your healthcare team has conferred regarding your conditions and treatments



Make sure you are well-informed about your treatment



Ask your healthcare team about follow-up care, such as prescriptions, tests, and appointments

4. INFECTION CONTROL



Handwashing - for both healthcare professionals and visitors - is critical for a safe medical environment



Before any medical professionals touch you or your belongings, ask them to wash their hands



Don't be afraid to ask your family members and visitors to wash their hands

5. PATIENT PARTICIPATION



Remember that your participation in your health care can help you attain the proper treatment



If something about your treatment isn't clear to you, ask questions until you feel fully informed



Be sure to know and understand your health conditions, medications, and treatment goals