How Do I Get Into the Program?

Patients are first evaluated in a hospital, emergency room or VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC). The admitting conditions are community acquired pneumonia, heart failure, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), and/or cellulitis (a type of skin infection). After the initial evaluation and based on your preference and the physicians’ recommendations, the option to continue care in your home through the Hospital at Home program can be initiated.

If you have any questions or would like further information on the SLVHCS Hospital at Home program, please call
(504) 274-5491
Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (SLVHCS) Hospital at Home program provides hospital-level care to those patients suffering from specific diagnoses amenable to treatment in the comfort of a person’s own home.

The hospital at home model has been utilized in Europe for several years. In the U.S., it was developed and tested as part of a National Demonstration and Evaluation Study through Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and School of Public Health, funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation and Department of Veterans Affairs, at clinical sites in Buffalo, New York, Portland, Oregon, and Worcester, Massachusetts.

Results from this U.S. study and other hospital at home programs report high patient satisfaction. The U.S. study also showed that quality of care is consistent with traditional hospital care but experience lower rates of certain complications.

In addition to staying in the comfort and familiar surroundings of one’s own home, all enrolled Veterans admitted into the Hospital at Home program will receive the following benefits:

- Daily physician oversight of all evaluations, including physician home visit(s).
- Daily registered nurse evaluations in the home.
- 24 hour telephone access to a registered nurse and physician.
- Each nurse will be limited to up to 3 patients at any time allowing for greater availability for medical needs.
- VA coverage of medical expenses.
- Access to laboratory test, oxygen, IVs, electrocardiograms in the home settings.
- Access to Lifeline services.
- The option to continue home care services upon discharge from Hospital to Home to assure close follow-up and access for clinical needs.