Screen for social needs prior to discharge. For low resource facilities, a referral for health plan or community case manager or social worker to follow up within 24 hours of discharge. These actions are not required of the physician but could be performed by other ED staff. For the patient discharged from the ED, they will leave with written instructions to support adherence to treatment.

HEPATIC ENCEPHALOPATHY ED SAMPLE DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

Hepatic Encephalopathy (HE) is a condition that causes confusion and other problems with thinking. It can also cause changes in mood, poor sleep, and unusual body movements. Most people who get HE has a type of liver disease called cirrhosis, and things like infection, bleeding in the stomach, or constipation can be the cause. HE can cause memory loss, confusion, mood changes, difficulty speaking or writing, unusual movements of the hands, arms, legs, and trouble sleeping or sleeping too much.

Discharge Instructions for Patient and Caregiver

Please be sure to follow these directions carefully:

1. Schedule an appointment with your Primary doctor in _____ days
2. Schedule an appointment with your GI doctor in _____ days
3. Fill your prescriptions and take all medications as prescribed
4. **Review medications with both patient and caregiver, making a note of any changes**
5. Drink plenty of fluids
6. Eat frequent small meals throughout the day with a high carbohydrate snack at bedtime
7. Prevent falls or other injuries: remove loose rigs from the floor, use handrails when walking stairs, use a shower chair when bathing, keep pathways and walkways clear of clutter both inside and out
8. Patients and caregivers be aware of signs of worsening hepatic encephalopathy:
   a. Confusion
   b. Disorientation
   c. Agitation
9. Your doctor may advise against driving. HE may increase your risk of having an accident while driving a car. Your doctor may not allow you to drive until you have more testing or may limit your driving to short distances in daylight hours only