TriHealth

Your Safety is Our Priority
Speak Up

You, as the patient, can play a vital role in making your care safe by becoming an active, involved and informed member of your health care team. Everyone has a role in making health care safe – physicians, health care executives, nurses and technicians. Health care organizations across the country are working to make health care safety a priority.

- **S**peak up if you have questions or concerns, and if you don't understand, ask again. It's your body, and you have a right to know.

- **P**ay attention to the care you are receiving. Remind your doctors, nurses and care givers to wash their hands or use alcohol gel before they touch you. Make sure you're getting the right treatments and medications by the right health care professionals. Don't assume anything.

- **E**ducate yourself about your diagnosis, the medical test you are undergoing and your treatment plan.

- **A**sk a trusted family member or friend to be your advocate. Have a copy of your durable power of attorney for health care and living will forms available.

- **K**now what medications you take and why you take them. Keep an updated list of medications with you at all times. Medication errors are the most common health care mistakes.

- **U**se a hospital, clinic, surgery center other type of health care organization that has undergone a rigorous on-site evaluation against established, state-of-the-art quality and safety standards, such as that provided by The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

- **P**articipate in all decisions about your treatment. You are the center of the health care team.

For more information, contact the Patient Relations Department at Bethesda North at 513-865-1115, or at Good Samaritan at 513-862-2582.