

SWING BED PROGRAM

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Defining Swing Bed:

Swing Bed Programs are one of the great benefits of rural community hospitals. When patients no longer require acute hospital care but cannot take care of themselves at home, Swing Bed offers them the ability to recover with medical supervision close to family, friends, and home!

Swing Bed offers two levels of care – skilled care and intermediate care. **Skilled care** is offered at both Cloud County Health Center and Lindsborg Community Hospital and requires the general direction of a physician over skilled personnel providing direct and comprehensive care. **Intermediate care** is available at Lindsborg Community Hospital and also requires physician direction but the care is provided by hospital para-professionals under the supervision of 24-hour nursing staff. Intermediate care is usually short term for patients arranging for lifestyle changes, returning to independent living, or transitioning to a long-term care facility. There are no specific eligibility requirements and it is rarely covered by insurance.

Families are expected to assume an active role in the implementation of the plan of care.

Eligibility Requirements for Skilled Care:

Typically reimbursed by insurance, but please check with your insurance provider.

- Must have received acute care for a minimum of 3 midnights prior to admission; The three days must have been in succession
- Must be admitted within thirty days of an acute care stay
- Must have healthcare needs defined as "Skilled"
- Must be under the supervision of a physician at the cooperating facility

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Salina Regional Health Center offers Swing Bed care at Lindsborg Community Hospital and Cloud County Health Center. All three locations are linked through the same medical record system, which simplifies the transition from acute care to Swing Bed by allowing providers immediate access to your medical history.

What are the Benefits?

- Swing Bed promotes a continuity of care. Patients transition from acute to skilled to intermediate care in one hospital, eliminating the physical move between facilities.
- Each facility provides immediate access to professional nurses, physicians, and emergency care.
- · Patient's families are involved.
- Discharge planning includes evaluating a patient's needs and implementing post-hospital care.
- Swing Bed allows hospitals greater flexibility in utilizing existing staff and amenities, which in effect makes it possible for patients to receive care closer to home.
- Patients can receive rehab services such as physical and occupational therapy. These services could be limited on the weekends.

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