

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Hospitalization of a child for any reason can often be difficult. Please take advantage of the medical and professional teams at the Wyoming Behavioral Institute to understand the treatment, goals, and approaches to answer your questions. Frequent communication with the staff is highly recommended and is necessary for effective treatment.

Treatment success depends on a number of things. These can include response of the psychiatric illness to treatment, the ability of the child to initiate and maintain change, and evidence (in family meetings or while the child is home on passes) of the positive change continuing after discharge from the hospital. Positive results after discharge will be highly dependent on continued treatment out of the hospital at home.

You are strongly encouraged to be actively involved in your child's treatment. I confer daily with the staff and the family therapist so that they can often provide you with the most current information. I reserve office time for parents/guardians of my patients to schedule meetings with me or my medical team. ***IF NEEDED, IT IS ASKED THAT PARENTS TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SCHEDULE THESE MEETINGS OR TO CALL TO SPEAK WITH US.*** Please do not hesitate to call or schedule a meeting with me. **Call my office directly, [(307)234-3638] not the staff with Wyoming Behavioral Institute,** and leave a message with my office to assure that the message is received.

Restrictive insurance benefits (often prejudicial) for psychiatric treatment sometimes limit optimal treatment. (The Federal Government now legislatively requires that psychiatric illness be covered by insurance as equally as it covers other medical illnesses in any policy with an employer of more than 50 employees.) It is encouraged that you be aware of your insurance benefits and costs associated with your child's treatment. Please keep the treatment team informed if finances might limit treatment options. Unfortunately, economics now influence treatment options in all medical specialties.

I am a physician in private practice; not an employee of Wyoming Behavioral Institute. **As such, my charges are separate from theirs.** We will bill your insurance company but the policy agreement is between it and yourself, not between the company and my office. If you need to make payment arrangements, please stop by or call my office and talk with Susan. Attached are my fees for usual services. Infrequently there will be other charges.

It is my intention that the hospitalization will not only be helpful to your child but also a growing and beneficial experience for your child and family. Also, as Medical Director of the Wyoming Behavioral Institute, my mission is to encourage the best medical treatment. As such, I welcome any questions, suggestions, or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Brown, M.D.
Board Certified in Child, Adolescent, and General Psychiatry