

**Table 1. Draft of Best Practices Discharge Checklist for the Busy Hospitalist**

<p><b>Checklist Element, and Category, or “Domain,” to which each Element is related:</b></p> <p><b>P, Discharge Planning; M, Medications; S, Discharge Summary Document</b></p>	<p><b>Particulars</b></p>
✓ Code status (P, S)	Code status (and any other pertinent end-of-life issue stipulations) discussed with patient and included in the Summary (2)
✓ Planning	Discharge appointment
✓ Mobility (P, S)	Some measure of current transfer & ambulation capability. Get up and Go (3) or I-MOVE (4)
✓ Cognition (P, S)	Record Mental Status (or Folstein score) in hospital summary
✓ Social support (P, S)	Discern and record social support network in Hospital Summary
✓ Providers (P, S)	Identify referring and receiving providers (5,6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record in Summary</li> <li>• Contact them</li> </ul>
✓ Follow-up plan (P, S)	Include any testing and provider visit appointments (7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date</li> <li>• Name</li> <li>• Address</li> <li>• Telephone number</li> <li>• Purpose</li> </ul>
✓ Activity instructions or restrictions (P, S)	Discuss with patient and include in Summary (8)
✓ Medication reconciliation (M, S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO TEARS tool (9)</li> <li>• Meds you should no longer take (Roger Resar, MD, IHI)</li> <li>• Whittington (10)</li> <li>• Clinical Pharmacist involvement (11,12)</li> </ul>
✓ Medication education (M, S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate patient, including written schedule of medications, and indications (and cautions, if apt) for each medication (13)</li> <li>• Clinical pharmacist involvement (11,12)</li> </ul>
✓ Discharge summary (M, S)	Including (8): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenting problem(s) that precipitated hospitalization</li> <li>• Key findings</li> <li>• Diagnostic tests and results</li> <li>• Treatments and response to therapy</li> <li>• Condition at discharge</li> <li>• Prognosis</li> <li>• Any anticipated problems and suggested interventions</li> </ul>
✓ Patient instructions (P, M, S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include health literacy (reading at 6th-grade level) (13)</li> <li>• Anticipated problem(s) and suggested intervention(s)</li> </ul>
✓ Continuing care (P, S)	Include lab and radiology reports and vital signs (8)
✓ Hazardous medications (M, S)	Plans for proximate follow-up tests and visits for patients newly taking warfarin or electrolyte-disturbing medications (1). Precise warfarin dosing (14)