

Adapting clinical approaches

Resources for Patients and Caregivers:

These are materials prepared specifically for patients with developmental disabilities, and their caregivers. We encourage EDs to integrate these into the care that is provided. Some materials can be given out as information, whereas others can be used during the visit to foster communication and understanding.



About Me: My Emergency Department Visit - If not completed during this visit, hand it out and encourage the patient complete and bring with them next time. It will help staff to know about the person!



My Exit Interview - This is to be completed by an SW/RN/MD with the patient. It contains prompts for you to summarize the visit and follow up in a clear and simple way to optimize patient involvement and understanding.



Going to the Emergency Department: A Social Story - A social story is a person-centred telling of 'what to expect'. These can help prepare an anxious or curious patient. This is a general version that you can download and modify to your setting.



Getting a Blood Test: A Social Story - Bloodwork can be an anxiety-provoking experience for people with DD. This social story is meant to help patients understand the purpose of a blood test, and what they can expect. Review this with patients, and encourage any questions. This is a general version that you can download and modify to your setting.



Getting More Money - Most people with DD experience poverty which will impact their health. This handout is written in clear language for people with DD/caregivers and explains some of the financial programs that they may be eligible for.



Videos for patients and their caregivers



Helpful Websites - Print this out as a handout that provides a simple listing of website designed for people with DD, focused on healthy living.