Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Urgent Care Center and Symptom Care Clinic Nursing Discharge Instructions: Shortness of Breath

This information explains nursing discharge instructions for shortness of breath from the Urgent Care Center (UCC) or the Symptom Care Clinic (SCC).

Shortness of Breath

Call 911 if you feel like you cannot breathe.

Take your medications as prescribed.

Call your MSK healthcare team or visit the nearest emergency room if you have:

- New or worsening shortness of breath.
- Chest pain.
- Coughing blood.
- Signs of infection, such as a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher, shaking chills, or sweating.

Your care team may direct you to your regional Symptom Care Clinic (SCC) or the Urgent Care Center (UCC).

Follow up with your MSK healthcare team after discharge.

For more information, visit www.mskcc.org/pe/short_breath

You can search for information on this topic and many others in MSK's Patient

and Caregiver Education library at www.mskcc.org/pe

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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