

Press Release
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Media Contact
Venetta Seals | rchcares@reevesregional.com
432-447-3551 ext. 2243

Reeves Regional Health's Swing Bed Program Supports Seamless Recovery

Program Provides Convenient, In-Community Healing

Pecos, TX (January 4, 2025) – For patients recovering from surgery or illness, staying close to home can make all the difference in the healing process. Reeves Regional Health offers a service for patients who need continued care after a hospital stay but aren't ready to return home.

This program, Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program, allows patients to recover in a hospital setting within their community without having to change facilities. By providing continued, skilled nursing care in the same familiar environment, Reeves Regional Health is ensuring that patients can heal comfortably without the added stress of long-distance travel or facility transfers.

"The ability to recover right here in Pecos makes a significant difference for our patients," said Dr Vincent Gore, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, ACHE, Chief Nursing Officer at Reeves Regional Health. "This program not only supports physical healing but also provides peace of mind for families, knowing their loved ones are close and receiving top-quality care from a team they trust."

The Swing Bed Program is available to patients who have been hospitalized for at least three days and require additional skilled nursing care before returning home. This service is especially helpful for patients needing IV antibiotics or infusions, recovering from major surgeries like hip replacements, open-heart surgery, neurological conditions such as strokes, or managing chronic illnesses that require additional rehabilitation support. It also provides crucial care for patients who are not yet able to care for themselves at home due to ongoing recovery needs.

The service provides 24/7 skilled nursing care, including wound care, physical therapy and other rehabilitation services tailored to the patient's condition. Unlike traditional nursing homes, the Swing Bed Program offers patients the benefit of continuing their recovery in the same facility where they received their initial hospital treatment. If patients' conditions change, they can seamlessly transition from skilled care back to acute care, if necessary, without needing to be transferred to another facility.

"The program provides a seamless recovery process that is both efficient and comforting for our patients," Gore explained. "Patients get the care they need and stay within their own community, which helps them feel more secure and less isolated during recovery."

For patients, one of the key benefits of the Swing Bed Program is the continuity of care. Rather than moving to a separate facility, patients can stay in the hospital and "swing" their level of care based on their recovery needs. If further acute care is required, they can be "swung" back to that level of care

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within the same facility, ensuring their recovery is not interrupted. This continuity helps patients heal faster and reduces the likelihood of complications that can arise from transferring to different hospitals or nursing homes.

The program is fully covered by Medicare and some private insurance products for the first 20 days, making it a cost-effective option for individuals who qualify. If further care is required after 20 days, Medicare covers a portion of the care through co-insurance. This allows patients and their families to focus on recovery without the added burden of managing complicated billing or insurance concerns.

"The Swing Bed Program is invaluable, especially for patients who might otherwise be discharged to a nursing home when all they really need is skilled nursing care for just a few more days before going home," said Gore. "This program allows us to provide exactly what our patients need in a familiar setting, which enhances their recovery experience."

The program also accepts patients referred from other facilities, allowing those living outside the area to benefit from local care. For individuals recovering from surgeries or medical procedures who live in surrounding towns, the program provides a convenient option for continued recovery without having to travel long distances which is an added expense for the families.

As with all care at Reeves Regional Health, the Swing Bed Program is personalized to each patient's unique needs. A medical providers referral is required for admission to the program, and the patient's care plan is developed in collaboration with the healthcare team. This care plan is designed to be progressive, setting recovery goals and timelines to help patients return to their normal activities as quickly and safely as possible.

"We understand how challenging recovery can be, especially when it's not always clear when patients will be able to go home," Gore said. "This program is about giving patients the time they need to heal, while ensuring they stay in a supportive and familiar environment that promotes their recovery."

Reeves Regional Health's Swing Bed Program exemplifies its commitment to providing the best possible care for local residents and their families. It represents the hospital's dedication to making healthcare more accessible and convenient for the community.

"We are proud to offer this program to our patients," Gore said. "Ensuring that our neighbors don't have to leave the community for recovery services is just another way we are looking out for the health and wellness of our friends and families."

The Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program is available to anyone who qualifies and is in medically documented need of the services the program offers. A referral from a medical practitioner is

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required for the Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program. For more information, please ask your healthcare provider or call Reeves Regional Health at 432-447-3551 or visit www.reevesregional.com.

About Reeves Regional Health

Reeves Regional Health (RRH), formally known as Reeves County Hospital District, provides healthcare services for Reeves County and neighboring West Texas communities. Founded in 1954, RRH, a Level IV Trauma Center, offers various medical services, including emergency care, diagnostic imaging, physical therapy, general surgery, a clinical laboratory, and more. RRH also operates Reeves Regional Home Health and Hospice and Reeves Regional Rural Health Clinic. In November 2022, RRH began serving patients from a new \$115 million, 140,000-square-foot campus. For more information, please visit www.reevesregional.com.