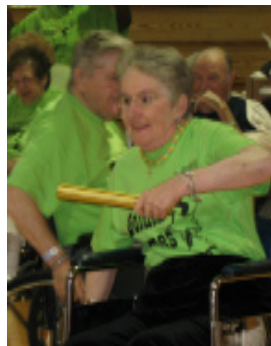


Frequently Asked Questions

About Admission
and Stay

at the

Gurwin Jewish
Nursing &
Rehabilitation Center



This listing of Frequently Asked Questions
is meant to help you as you
choose a nursing care facility.

While all of your questions will certainly
not be answered here, we tried to address
the most commonly asked questions,
for your convenience.

Should you have additional questions,
please feel free to call our Admissions office at
631.715.2578. We will be happy to help you.

Whether you are looking for short-term
rehabilitation or long-term nursing care,
we look forward to your stay.

Admissions/Finance

How does my loved one get admitted to Gurwin?

For both Long-term care and short-term rehabilitation admissions, we need a Patient Review Instrument (PRI) from the hospital/nursing home in which the resident is currently. The PRI is like a medical resume, and we look at that to be sure we can adequately meet the residents needs and that the resident is appropriate for us. The PRI should be faxed by the hospital/nursing home to our admissions office for review.

Who pays for the care?

Depending on whether you are here for long-term care or short-term rehabilitation, Gurwin accepts Medicaid, Medicare and a variety of HMOs, or you may pay privately. We will help you determine source of payment.

For short-term residents, Medicare may cover up to 100 days.

Medicine/Nursing

What medical services are available for residents?

Gurwin has physicians on staff, Monday through Friday 8 am – 5 pm. Medical coverage is extended in to the early evening and weekends by either a nurse practitioner or physician assistant, with a physician on call.

We are able to do x-rays on site, and can send a resident to a local hospital for an x-ray. In addition, we have a variety of consultants in our on-site clinic so residents don't need to go out to doctors' offices. If the resident has a need to see a specialist in the community, it can be facilitated through the attending physician here at Gurwin.

If a resident needs to go to the hospital, where do they go?

If it is a scheduled need, most of our residents go to Huntington Hospital. If there is a need to call 911, state law mandates the resident be taken to the closest hospital, which in our case is St. Catherine's in Smithtown.

How will the family get to know the staff?

The resident/family will be introduced to the various members of the care team. Two weeks into the stay, long-term family members and residents will be invited to a Care Plan Meeting, where the residents' needs are discussed, as well as the plan of care that has been developed. Thereafter, the resident/family will be invited to Care Plan Meetings regularly, and/or if there is a significant change in their condition.

Half way through their stay, short-term residents and their family members will be invited to a discharge planning meeting, where the resident's therapists and social worker will discuss services, appropriate settings and possible equipment needed to facilitate a safe discharge.

Rehabilitation

What is a short term resident?

A short term resident is someone who meets the Medicare criteria for rehabilitation, whose typical length of stay is 3-4 weeks and who has the potential to return to the community.

What types of therapy do you offer?

Gurwin offers Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy. Residents may receive one or more services, based on their needs.

Do you have therapy 7 days a week?

The rehabilitation schedule is based on each residents' needs and tolerance, as well as the professionals recommendations. Most short-term residents receive five or six days of therapy a week.

How many hours of therapy will the resident receive?

Typically 1 ½ hours a day, but it can be more as dictated by the resident's need and tolerance level. Rehabilitation will not exceed 3 hours.

What if the resident doesn't feel up to going to Therapy on a given day?

Then we will try again either later in the day or the next day. We will confer with medicine and follow their recommendations. Missing therapy for more than three days may affect Medicare eligibility.

Therapeutic Recreation

How often do you have activities?

Activities are offered seven days a week and five evenings a week. Programs are subject to change.

When are religious services offered?

Jewish services: Oneg Shabbat every Friday afternoon. Saturday services every Saturday morning. Jewish Holidays are scheduled.

Catholic Mass: The 2nd Thursday of every month from 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Eucharistic Ministers visit residents in room twice a month.

Protestant services: Are offered the 4th Thursday of every month. The Protestant Vicor visits weekly.

Do you have computers?

The Therapeutic Recreation staff has a roving computer club twice a week. Residents may send and receive email, and surf the internet.

How will I get to the activities?

Therapeutic Recreation staff and volunteers primarily assist residents. However, all staff are there to assist in transport.

Can my family bring my dog in to visit?

Yes, however we require advance notice and accommodations. Please call Therapeutic Recreation at 715-2649, or speak to your unit receptionist.

Do you have a library?

We have a large and regular print library for books. We will complete an application for talking books.

Do you do bedside activities?

The Therapeutic Recreation staff offers bedside activities.

Pharmacy

Does Gurwin have an onsite Pharmacy?

Gurwin has an on site pharmacy staffed with registered pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Staff has access to the pharmacy 24/7 for emergency medications.

How are my medications paid for?

Depending on your admission type, payment takes place as follows:

- a) Most short term rehabilitation medications are paid by Medicare Part A or through an HMO. Medication costs are usually included in the daily rate.
- b) Private pay residents will receive a monthly bill for medications dispensed, which may be submitted to private insurance for reimbursement. If you have Medicare D Plan that we are contracted with, we will bill that plan if requested and pass only the copayment on to you in your private bill.
- c) Long term admissions with both Medicare and Medicaid coverage will be automatically enrolled into a benchmark Part D plan, and we will bill that plan for all medications. There will be no cost to the resident.

Can I bring in my own medications?

No. All medications will be provided by the pharmacy for all long and short-term residents.

Can I take alternative medications while at Gurwin?

Upon medical approval, alternative medications may be taken here at Gurwin. You will need to purchase these privately, and bring unopened bottles to our pharmacy so we can identify the product and label it.

Nutritional Services

What types of diets do we accommodate?

We can accommodate all types of diets ranging from regular to low sodium, diabetic, low cholesterol as well as soft and puree. Registered Dietitians are part of the team to individualize diet programs whether it is for weight loss, cardiac rehab or any other special dietary requirements.

What kosher standards do we follow?

Our kitchen is supervised by a *Mashgiach* to ensure we maintain our high kosher standards. We maintain two separate kitchens (meat and dairy) two dishrooms, two sets of dishes, silverware, etc. We provide special meals for the Sabbath and for the holidays. We follow strict guidelines during Passover as well.

What if your family member does not keep kosher?

All of the meals we serve are kosher. We also have a “brown bag room” where family members may bring non-kosher food for their loved ones. All food brought into Gurwin must be eaten and stored in this room.

How does our nutritional services department differ from other dietary departments in other facilities?

Our nutrition department has Registered Dietitians on staff every day, with the exception of Saturday. They are an important component of the team and work closely with the Doctors and Nurses to ensure all aspects of nutritional care are being met.

We also provide a nutrient rich and tasteful diet while meeting high Kosher standards. Our nutritional services team works hard to provide theme days and monotony breakers to combat menu fatigue. Menu items are regularly changed according to resident suggestions and comments. We encourage residents to provide us with recipes they may be familiar with so we can provide meals that make them feel “closer to home.”

Newspapers/Phones/Beauty Parlor

Can I have a phone?

You can arrange for phone service through our Finance office, located on the first floor near the lobby.

Is there a Beauty/Barber Salon Onsite?

Yes. You can make arrangements for an appointment through your unit receptionist. Fees are listed at the nursing station.

Can I have a newspaper delivered?

Yes. See the receptionist for information on newspaper delivery.

Ventilator Residents

Who is eligible for admission to the vent unit?

Chronically ill, medically stable patients.

Do you try to wean ventilator residents?

Yes.

Is there 24 hour respiratory therapy coverage?

Yes.

What is the nursing staff to resident ratio?

10:1 residents/Registered Nurse.

Is there full time physician coverage?

Yes, Monday through Friday days, hours are extended into the evenings and weekends by Nurse Practitioners and Physicians' Assistants. There is also a pulmonologist who consults on ventilator residents.

Can ventilator residents speak?

Residents are evaluated by a Speech Therapist to determine the best method for communication as dictated by their abilities. Communication enhancements can vary from communication boards up to and including speaking valves.

Can ventilator residents ambulate?

Yes, if they meet the criteria.

Can ventilator residents receive rehabilitation?

Yes, if the resident has the ability to make functional gains as assessed by the Physical Therapist.

Can ventilator residents get out of bed?

Yes, if the residents' condition permits it.

Can ventilator residents participate in recreational activities?

Yes, if the resident's condition permits it and they choose to participate.



68 Hauppauge Road • Commack, NY 11725 • (631) 715-2000
www.gurwin.org