I’VE HAD A STROKE. NOW WHAT?

For anyone who has had a stroke, prompt medical attention is critical. But what happens when you or a loved one has been released from the hospital and told you need additional medical care? Where do you go?

People have a choice when it comes to selecting where to go for additional medical treatment. And choosing the right type of medical facility — whether it’s a nursing home or an inpatient rehabilitation hospital — makes all the difference in how well and how quickly someone recovers.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SETTING

For many people who have had a stroke, an inpatient rehabilitation hospital is the right choice. Because with the right care, in the right setting, with the right medical team — inpatient rehabilitation hospitals have the proven expertise and experience to help people recover to the very best of their abilities.

Why? Because inpatient rehabilitation hospitals are medical hospitals, not extended healthcare facilities. More specifically, inpatient rehabilitation hospitals are specialized hospitals. They employ a large medical team of doctors and certified rehabilitation specialists, including, among others, rehabilitation nurses; speech-language-pathologists; physical therapists; occupational therapists; and neuropsychologists (specialized psychologists who are trained in how to work with patients who’ve experienced a neurological trauma). Each medical team is led by a physiatrist — a doctor specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation — who develops a treatment plan that is customized to each patient’s stroke rehabilitation needs and goals and visits with each patient daily.

ENSURING THE RIGHT OUTCOME

At inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, rehabilitation is all they do — and they are the experts and have the results to prove it. Research shows that people who go to an inpatient rehabilitation hospital for their stroke treatment and rehabilitation have better results, including the following:

❖ Spend less time in the hospital;
❖ Return home sooner;
❖ Have fewer return visits to the hospital;
❖ Live longer; and
❖ Enjoy a better quality of life.