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# Geriatric Day Hospital The Ottawa Hospital, Civic Campus

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*A Resource for successful aging*

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### Our Purpose

To provide comprehensive multidisciplinary assessment for patients who are experiencing a change in function, memory, mood, or have complex medical issues. Short-term treatment, counseling, and education are available to patients and their caregivers to facilitate community support and long-term care planning.

### Referral Process

Patients are usually referred by their family or physicians. At times, patients will be referred through the Emergency Department (Geriatric Emergency Management Program).

Typically, patients have already been seen in their own home by the Geriatric Outreach Assessor before an appointment is made for the Geriatric Day Hospital.

### Hours of Operation

9.00 am – 4.00 pm  
Monday – Friday

### The First Visit

The patient's first visit is often 3-4 hours in length as it includes a thorough medical and nursing assessment. The appointment begins at **9:00 am**.

The patient **must** bring all medications to the first visit.

An involved family member, caregiver, or friend must accompany the patient to the first visit.

This is important to provide their perspective and to help establish goals for the assessment.

### Our Team

The Ward Clerk will act as the initial contact. The Ward Clerk will provide the first appointment date.

Referrals will be made to appropriate team members.

The team includes:

- Geriatrician (doctor)
- Registered Nurse
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Social Worker
- Speech and Language Pathologist
- Dietician
- Pharmacist

### Return visits

The patient can expect to have four to five visits scheduled over several weeks. These visits can last one to three hours.

Many visits are required as patients can fluctuate day to day. This also helps to reduce fatigue in each session.

Patients will not see the Geriatrician on each visit. The Geriatrician will communicate with the referring family physician as needed.

If there are any medical emergencies during the assessment period, please contact your own family physician.

### Completion of Day Hospital Assessment:

On completion of your Day Hospital visits, a meeting will be held with the patient and caregiver.

A written discharge summary with recommendations is provided. This is given to the patient and caregiver(s) and sent to the family physicians and involved community agencies. It is expected that caregivers will help the patient to follow through with these assessment recommendations.