**MSN Capstone Virtual**

**American General Hospital**

**DME Discharge Policy**

**Policy**

The covering physician or nurse practitioner must write a prescription for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) at discharge for any patient requiring DME. Documentation of medical necessity should be included. Patients are responsible for procuring DME.

**Procedure**

The physician, nurse practitioner, or therapist may identify DME is required for a patient being discharged.

A prescription must be written by the physician or approved provider as well as a letter of medical necessity or form. Both should be given to the patient or guardian. Provide a list of recommended\* local vendors of the DME for the patient’s consideration.

In the electronic health record, it must be documented that the patient/guardian received the prescription and letter of necessity with the discharge documents. Include name of approved vendor, if known. Document the education given about the need and use of the prescribed DME.

At no time may patients be discharged with hospital-owned DME equipment or supplies.

\*Recommended vendors include those who supply DME needs that are typical to the AGH community and that are certified for varied insurance plans, including Medicare.