

Key differences in adult health care services

Responsibilities	Communication	Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) Role	Hospital/ Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn more about your condition and medications and be able to talk about them with health care professionals when asked. • Give your opinion about your treatment plan. • Keep note of your own appointments with the hospital/clinic. • Look after your own medication schedule (what to take and when; how to order more and how/where to collect them.) • Take some responsibility for organising other treatments or procedures that you may require. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions will more likely be directed to you and not your parent(s)/ guardian(s). • You are still entitled to bring a family member or friend with you to hospital appointments; lots of adults take family members or friends along to important appointments for support. • The key difference is that <i>you</i> will be the one to talk about your health and ask or answer questions. • Health care staff may use more medical terms than you were used to in child services; don't be afraid to ask them to explain these to you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your parent(s)/ guardian(s) will continue to play a role in your health care but you will now have overall responsibility. • If you are admitted to hospital your parent(s)/ guardian(s) will not be able to stay over with you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There could be people of different ages, often much older around you at appointments or if you are admitted to hospital. • Waiting times may sometimes be longer in adult services • You may not see the same team members at every clinic visit so you may have to repeat your medical history each time. • You may spend less time with the doctor at your clinic visit. • There may be different treatments and/or resources available in the adult clinic.