

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.