Factors Associated with Poor Discharge Outcomes – Assessing Risk

- Age > 80
- Fair-to-poor self-rating of health
- Recent and frequent hospitalizations
- Inadequate social support
- Multiple, active chronic health problems
- Depression history
- Chronic disability and functional impairment
- History of nonadherence to therapeutic regimen
- Lack of documented patient/family education

(Naylor, 2000)

Barriers to Effective Care Transitions

- Poor communication (verbal instruction & written materials)
- Incomplete transfer of information
- Inadequate education of older adults and their family caregivers
- Limited access to essential services
- Inadequate medication management
- Lack of consideration of patient’s individual goals and preferences
- Absence of a single point person to ensure continuity of care

(Naylor, 2003; Coleman 2003)