



**Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Skilled Nursing Program Provides Localized Recovery for Patients**

*Reeves Regional Health's Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program Offers Seamless Extended Care*

Pecos, TX (Aug. 12, 2024) – Recovering from a hospital procedure far from home can bring stress and worry for patients and their families. In Pecos, a specialized program at Reeves Regional Health allows patients covered under Medicare who are not quite ready to go home to recover in a hospital setting within their community.

The Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program at Reeves Regional Health offers extended skilled nursing care to qualified patients recovering from a hospital procedure without the need to change facilities. This unique program acts as a bridge between the hospital and home, providing peace of mind to both patients and their families and facilitating a more comfortable recovery.

“A smooth and successful recovery requires that patients receive the care they need, when they need it,” said Dr. Steven Serrano, Family Practice with Obstetrics at Reeves Regional Health. “This program ensures our patients get the personalized care they need, enabling a smoother transition back to their everyday lives. It is also reassuring for families, knowing their loved ones are receiving the care they need near home.”

The Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program is designed for patients covered under Medicare who have been admitted to the hospital for at least three days and are not quite ready to go home. Patients may not be ready to be discharged for various reasons, including a lack of healthcare resources at home to care for themselves.

Often referred to as Swing Bed in the medical community, this program allows the hospital to “swing” a patient’s level of care from acute to skilled rehabilitation. If acute care is needed again, the patient can be “swung” back, meaning there is no need to change facilities.

Under the federally funded Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (Flex Program), Swing Bed services are fully covered by Medicare for the first 20 days. When care is required past the first 20 days, Medicare becomes a co-insurance that pays for a portion of the service.

As part of the Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program, patients recovering from an acute condition have access to 24-hour skilled nursing services, including nursing, wound care, and physical therapy. Patients can be admitted to the program for a variety of reasons, especially for extended care following extensive surgery such as hip replacement or open-heart surgery, neurological disorders such as stroke, and generalized weakness due to certain chronic conditions.

**MORE**

**Reeves Regional Health**

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## **Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program**

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A referral from a physician is required for the Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program when it is determined that skilled care will be needed. The Swing Bed Coordinator then arranges admission to the program. The program also accepts patients from other facilities so they can recover close to home.

Patients can remain in skilled care as long as there is a documented need for that level of care. Care plans must be developed with a physician at the beginning of the stay, establishing progressive recovery goals.

Dr. Serrano stated that the Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program is also a good option for patients who might otherwise be discharged to a nursing home when all they really need is skilled nursing care for just a few more days before returning home.

“Ensuring that our patients don’t have to leave the community for recovery services is just another way we are looking out for the health and wellness of our neighbors,” Dr. Serrano said. “You can take comfort knowing that the healthcare services you depend on are right around the corner in Pecos.”

The Transitional Care/Swing Bed Program is available to anyone who qualifies for Medicare and is in medically documented need of the services the program offers. For more information, please call Reeves Regional Health at 432-447-3551 or visit [www.reevesregional.com](http://www.reevesregional.com).

### **About Reeves Regional Health**

Reeves Regional Health (RRH), formally known as Reeves County Hospital District, provides healthcare services for Reeves County and neighboring West Texas communities. Founded in 1954, RRH, a Level IV Trauma Center, offers various medical services, including emergency care, diagnostic imaging, physical therapy, general surgery, a clinical laboratory, and more. RRH also operates Reeves Regional Home Health and Hospice and Reeves Regional Rural Health Clinic. In November 2022, RRH began serving patients from a new \$115 million, 140,000-square-foot campus. For more information, please visit [www.reevesregional.com](http://www.reevesregional.com).