Advanced 2- Health related article

Class objective: I will be able to understand the article, learn new vocabulary and answer the questions that follow.

Concept A: Reading-

- 1. America has a highly developed health care system, which is available to all people. Although it can be very complex, expensive, demanding and frustrating at times, it has come a long way from the health care organizations of yesterday. Previously, most health care facilities were a place where the sick were housed, and cared for and handled until death. Physicians rarely practised in hospitals removing bacterias and only those who were fortunate could afford proper care at home or in private clinics.
- 2. Today the level of healthcare has excelled tremendously. It is evident and debatable. Presently the goal of health care is to have a continuum of care for the patient(consumer); one which is integrated at all levels. Many hospitals offer a referral service or discharge plan to patients who are being discharged. Plans for the patient are discussed with a discharge planner. A discharge planner is a person who is trained in assessing what the patient's requirements for healthcare will be after discharge from the hospital. This enables the patients to continue their care at a level which is most appropriate for them. Items reviewed for discharge planning include but are not limited to therapies, medication needs, living arrangements and identification of specific goals. A few of the options that are available for persons being discharged from an acute care hospital can include home health care, assisted living facilities, long-term care or hospice.
- 3. According to Growing Old in America (1996), "Home health care is one of the fastest growing segments of the healthcare industry. Alternatives for home care can meet both the medical and non-medical needs of a patient. These services are provided to patients and their families in their home or place of residence. Home care is a method of delivering nursing care and other therapies as required by the patient's needs. Numerous alternatives are available for persons seeking health care

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