

# THE STACKING RISK MODEL

Most hospital readmissions don't happen because of a single event. They happen when multiple small issues, each manageable on their own, build. **As they stack, the likelihood of readmission rises quickly.**

## UNDERSTANDING THE STACK

Each layer in this model represents a common post-discharge challenge.



### CARE PROVIDERS OFTEN SEE

- "They seem a little weaker than before."
- "They're not eating as much."
- "The family says everything is fine, but..."
- "They're overwhelmed by instructions."

### HOME CARE CHANGES THE OUTCOME

Home care supports what happens between visits, where most breakdowns occur.

Caregivers help by...

- ✓ Supporting daily activities, such as meals, mobility, and hygiene.
- ✓ Reinforcing routines after discharge.
- ✓ Observing subtle changes in condition, behavior, and safety.
- ✓ Providing consistency during a high-risk transition period.
- ✓ Acting as the eyes and ears for families and referral partners.

If a patient is heading home with even a few of these risk factors, that's the moment to act—not wait. **MAKE A REFERRAL. THEY'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!**



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