## **5 Setting Distinctions:** LTACHs vs. SNFs



While long-term acute care hospitals (LTACHs) and skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) are often misunderstood as offering the same level of care, the unique expertise and resources available at LTACHs allow them to improve outcomes for medically complex patients. Below are 5 key differences between LTACH and SNF settings that impact medically complex patient recovery and readmission rates.

## **LTACHs SNFs** Care is directed by physicians who visit Physicians typically visit weekly or monthly, patients daily, and multiple medical subbut not daily, and some sub-specialist specialists are available for consultation. consultations are available in select centers. **Physicians** High-acuity care provided by BLS- and ACLS-certified nurses. Nurses implement and BLS-certified nurses monitor and manage む manage IV lines, catheters, and tracheostomy IV lines, catheters, and tracheostomy and and nasogastric tubes. Nurse-to-patient nasogastric tubes. ratios resemble those in other hospitals. Nurses Ventilator liberation is a major focus, led by Ventilator liberation is rare, and ventilator pulmonologists, respiratory therapists, and management is typically led by nurses rather rehabilitation specialists. than respiratory therapists. **Ventilator** Liberation Patients typically have serious conditions Patients tend to have a wide variety of such as respiratory failure, sepsis, traumatic conditions that can be managed by nurses brain injury, or surgical complications with with the goal of restoring functional many concurrent illnesses, and require independence before returning home. ongoing acute care. **Patient** Characteristics <del></del> Services such as telemetry, radiology, Radiology, pharmacy, lab, and dialysis pharmacy, lab, and dialysis are available. services are accessible off-site.

**Ancillary Services** 

## **NEXT LEVEL CARE. NEXT LEVEL RECOVERY.**

Kindred Hospitals, a nationwide network of long-term acute care hospitals, provide specialized treatment and rehabilitation for medically complex patients.

Learn more about how Kindred Hospitals can improve outcomes for medically complex patients at **refertokindred.com**.