

APPENDIX

Supplemental Table 1: Representative quotes highlighting differences in how individuals from low and high poverty census tracts experienced logistical themes related to the hospitalization and transition home

Low socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $\geq 15\%$ living in poverty)	
Sub-themes	Representative Quotes
Barriers to maintaining normalcy	<p>“We have to find somebody to watch them on Saturday because my husband had a meeting that he absolutely cannot miss, and I was at the hospital with the baby, and he was home with the older kids. So, he took them to a friend of ours for they were there like five or six hours and that was while I was being transported downtown with [child]... From here. And then, he picked them up that night. And then, Monday, I had to stay home with them to get them on the school buses before I could go back down [to the hospital], and we didn’t leave the hospital until almost one. And then, we were rush, rush, rushing to get back home because my son had an appointment at two, so it was kind of stressful.” (Mother, Session #10, interview)</p>
Lack of support	<p>“When somebody dies, you get bereavement, but if you got a sick kid, are you allowed to take off [work] without it counted against you? Right now, it counts against me and I could fight it, I mean, and my boss is real cool about it, but like if I said my kid was in the hospital, give me a break – You know, I think my boss would be OK, but if my boss doesn’t care for somebody, they could easily say, ‘Hey, no, no. You got your three occurrences, you’re fired.’” (Mother, Session #15)</p> <p>“As soon as we walk in the door, we go right from there, right back to the schedule. There is no leeway at all.” (Mother, Session #10, interview)</p>
Barriers to care access	<p>“I don’t have transportation. I had to catch the bus everywhere and by him it was really, really hot the next day. By him having a breathing problem, I was kind of scared to catch the bus, but my grandmother wind up taking us [to doctor visit and pharmacy]. Yeah. But she have problems too, so I’m like, thank you grandma. Thank you so much.” (Mother, Session #12)</p>
High socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $< 15\%$ living in poverty)	
Representative Quotes	
Presence of social supports	<p>“I was fortunate ... because my babysitter was the one who actually brought my son here when I was at work. So, she’s like a second mom to my children. So, she was willing to do whatever I needed, my mother-in-law, she’d drop everything.” (Mother, Session #7)</p> <p>“We are very fortunate to have both my mom and my husband’s mom come and help us with our other kids. So, when we got home, we had all the laundry done, made the house beautiful ... It was just fabulous from that perspective, so yes, it was just...like everybody is saying, you really don’t worry about anything else besides just being home.” (Mother, Session #9)</p> <p>“I’m glad to know we have family in town, so I could see it would be much more difficult for somebody who [doesn’t].” (Mother, Session #11)</p>
Family scheduling mishaps	<p>“They looked at me and said, ‘we’re going to admit her, she may be here for a few days,’ and then like ‘well, how many days? I have other kids at home.’” (Mother, Session #9)</p> <p>“[Hospital staff members] tell you you’re going to get out of here today. And you’re thinking, I’m going to be able to make my kids lunch at home and I’m not going to be here, and then [it’s] six o’clock at night and you’re like, great they’re going to have to get [fast food], I’m still here.” (Mother, Session #7)</p>

Supplemental Table 2: Representative quotes highlighting differences in how individuals from low and high poverty census tracts experienced emotional themes related to the hospitalization and transition home

	Low socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $\geq 15\%$ living in poverty)
Sub-themes	Representative Quotes
Overwhelmed and exhausted <small>Dealing with it alone</small>	<p>“It’s impossible to be at the hospital 24 hours a day. I don’t care who you are. I don’t care if you're a single parent. You have to take time for yourself because you're not going to do any good for your child if you're not taking care of yourself, and they're [patient] perfectly fine there without you for a couple of hours.” (Mother, Session #10, interview)</p> <p>“I have three kids at home – They were in school and my husband was back and forth, you know, because ... I didn't leave [child] at all ... So, I stayed with him... It was really hard ... keeping him here, it was hard.” (Mother, Session #14)</p> <p>“The [hospitalization was the] first time he's [Dad] going to see her since she was born is at the hospital! He let all this time go by, he made no effort to see her. His excuse was because he had four other kids which is not an excuse because I don’t care how many kids you got. You chose to make them kids. You better take care of each and every one of them ... So many guys think that the mothers just need to do all the work I feel like fathers have to pay for it too ... He'll needs to come and show some little love and support.” (Mother, Session #14)</p>
	High socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $< 15\%$ living in poverty)
	Representative Quotes
Overwhelmed and exhausted <small>Tasks</small>	<p>“I’m a stay-at-home mom, so I’m with these kids all day. I know the routine, [other] people [or people taking care of her children] don’t follow my rules. They give him stuff that they’re not supposed to. They just, I have rules.” (Mother, Session #7)</p> <p>“I had my life stopped and I Skype-d with my kids every single day, almost all day, so I knew what was going on at home, but [physician] did take the time out to ask me if there was anything that he could do to help me. I don’t know what his plan was.” (Mother, Session #9)</p> <p>“It’s a whole lot of stress and you’re going home with it because you really haven’t even had time or energy ... Because you get so focused on your kid and getting them well enough to go home. ...our son was discharged a month ago. He’s fine. My husband and I are still recovering. We are still processing the stress and the panic.” (Mother, Session #7)</p>

Supplemental Table 3: Representative quotes highlighting differences in how individuals from low and high poverty census tracts experienced financial themes related to the hospitalization and transition home

Low socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $\geq 15\%$ living in poverty)	
Sub-themes	Representative Quotes
Hospital costs	<p>“I told them I didn’t have money. I didn’t even have transportation so they [social work] gave me a guest [food] bag but the other days I starved ... I'm really no peanut butter and jelly person, but I try and eat it but it still didn’t help because you still are hungry.” (Mother, Session #14)</p> <p>“And it goes all down to the last \$6 in your pocket. You choose feeding yourself to staying here with your son or put that \$6 in your car or give it [to] somebody to pick up. That’s a very hard choice when you’re sitting out here for three or four days.” (Mother, Session #8)</p> <p>“You can’t afford to spend \$10 in a cafeteria or \$10 on you.” (Mother, Session #8)</p> <p>“I would order some food, and I would attempt to feed her [the patient]. She didn’t eat. I sure would eat it. I'm like ‘cause I was hungry. You know, one night [the nurse] was so sweet like all my children were here to see their sister and whatever, and she ordered my daughter just a big plate of food and she said to like feed the kid some pieces, you know. I'm sure she wasn’t supposed to do that but she was very sweet.” (Mother, Session #14)</p>
Income losses and job concerns	<p>“Actually it’s training that I’m going through to get a bus driver job so I had to miss a lot of that like I had to miss three days so that was kind of rough on me because this like, right now I’m at a point where I’m trying to basically start all over after the separation from my husband so it’s kind of been kind of rough, I really didn’t want to miss those days because I mean financially I really need to be working and everything so it kind of, it was an inconvenience a little bit you know but that’s my daughter so I have to be there for her no matter what.” (Mother, Session #2, interview)</p> <p>“My payday wasn’t until Friday and I was well pretty plumbed out on Wednesday.” (Father, Session #8)</p>
High socioeconomic status participants (from census tracts with $< 15\%$ living in poverty)	
Representative Quotes	
Dealing with missed work and school	<p>“And I was able to pick up my computer because I work two blocks away ... Everybody knows FMLA [Family and Medical Leave Act, allowing job-protected leave for qualified reasons] if you got a chronically ill child, but anyway, so at least she knew I wasn’t going to lose my job, but it was difficult missing a week and then, being out for another week out of town even though I was at work.” (Mother, Session #9)</p>
Concerns relating to return costs	<p>“And you're thinking, am I going to waste two hours in my life up there and 350 bucks [in re-hospitalization or return to emergency department costs] or whatever?” (Mother, Session #7)</p>