



## Patient Rights and Responsibilities

### Patient Rights

- A patient has the right to respectful care given by competent workers.
- A patient has the right to know the names and the jobs of his or her caregivers.
- A patient has the right to privacy with respect to his or her condition. A patient's care and treatment will be discussed only with those who need to know.
- A patient has the right to have his or her medical records treated as confidential and read only by people with a need to know. Information about a patient will be released only with permission from the patient or as required by law.
- A patient has the right to request amendments to and obtain information on disclosures of his or her health information, in accordance with law and regulation.
- A patient has the right to know what rules and regulations apply to his or her conduct as a patient.
- A patient has the right to have emergency procedures done without unnecessary delay.
- A patient has the right to good quality care and high professional standards that are continually maintained and reviewed.
- A patient has the right to make informed decisions regarding his or her care and has the right to include family members in those decisions.
- A patient has the right to information from his or her doctor in order to make informed decisions about his or her care. This means that patients will be given information about their diagnosis, prognosis, and different treatment choices. This information will be given in terms that the patient can understand. This may not be possible in an emergency.
- A patient has the right to refuse any drugs, treatment or procedures to the extent permitted by law after hearing the medical consequences of refusing the drug, treatment or procedure.
- A patient has the right to have help getting another doctor's opinion at his or her request and expense.
- A patient has the right to care without regard to race, color, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or source of payment.



- A patient has the right to be given information in a manner that he or she can understand. A patient who does not speak English, or is hearing or speech impaired, has the right to an interpreter, when possible.
- Upon request, a patient has the right to access all information contained in the patient's medical records within a reasonable timeframe. This access may be restricted by the patient's doctor only for sound medical reasons. A patient has the right to have information in the medical record explained to him or her.
- A patient has the right to help in planning for his or her discharge so that he or she will know about continuing health care needs after discharge and how to meet them.
- A patient has the right to access people or agencies to act on the patient's behalf or to protect the patient's right under law. A patient has the right to have protective services contacted when he or she or the patient's family members are concerned about safety.
- A patient has the right to be informed of his or her rights at the earliest possible time in the course of his or her treatment.
- A patient has the right to make advance directives (such as a living will, health care power of attorney and advance instruction for mental health treatment) and to have those directives followed to the extent permitted by law.
- A patient has the right to personal privacy and to receive care in a safe and secure setting.
- A patient has the right to be free from all forms of abuse or harassment.
- A patient has the right to be free from the use of seclusion and restraint, unless medically authorized by the physician. Restraints and seclusion will be used only as a last resort and in the least restrictive manner possible to protect the patient or others from harm and will be removed or ended at the earliest possible time.
- A patient has the right to be involved in resolving dilemmas about care decisions.
- A patient has the right to have his or her complaints about care resolved.
- A patient has the right to be free from financial exploitation by the health care facility.



## Patient Responsibilities

- Patients are responsible for providing correct and complete information about their health and past medical history.
- Patients are responsible for reporting changes in their general health condition, symptoms, or allergies to the responsible caregiver.
- Patients are responsible for reporting if they do not understand the planned treatment or their part in the plan.
- Patients are responsible for following the recommended treatment plan they have agreed to.
- Patients are responsible for keeping appointments.
- Patients are responsible for treating others with respect.