

Your Rights As A Patient

*We consider you a partner in your health care. When you are well-informed, participate in treatment decisions, and communicate openly with your doctor and other health professionals, you help make your care as effective as possible. We encourage respect for personal preferences and values of each individual. While you are a patient here **you have the right:***

- to access impartial treatment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability.
- to effective communication and the use of a qualified interpreter if needed.
- to considerate, respectful care in a safe setting free from all forms of abuse and harassment.
- to participate in the development and implementation of your care plan.
- to be provided information regarding your health status, diagnosis, and prognosis in order to have the ability to make informed decisions, including the ability to request, consent to, and refuse possible treatments. You have the right to discuss this information with your doctor and to know the names, roles, and professional status of staff treating you. You have the right to know the reasons for any proposed change in the professional staff responsible for your care. When it is not medically advisable to give such information to you, the information should be made available to an appropriate person on your behalf.
- to appropriate assessment and management of pain.
- to have an advance directive, such as a living will or health care proxy, and to have the hospital staff who provide care to you comply with your advance directive. If you have a written advance directive, you should provide a copy to the hospital, your family, and your doctor.
- to personal privacy. The hospital, your doctor, and others caring for you will protect your privacy as much as possible.
- to expect your treatment records are confidential unless you have given permission to release information or reporting is required or permitted by law. When the hospital releases records, it emphasizes that the records are confidential.
- to access and review your medical record within a reasonable time frame and to have the information explained, except when restricted by law. You also have the right to access the cost of services rendered to you and to be informed of the resource of the hospital's reimbursement for the services provided to you and of any limitations which may be placed upon your care.
- to expect the hospital will give you necessary health services to the best of its ability. Treatment, referral, or transfer may be recommended. If transfer is recommended or requested, you will be informed of risks, benefits, and alternatives. You will not be transferred until the other institution agrees to accept you.
- to know if this hospital has relationships with outside parties that may influence your treatment and care. These relationships may be with educational institutions, other health care providers, or insurers.
- to have a family member/representative of your choice and your family physician promptly notified at the time of your admission.
- to be fully informed of, and to consent or decline to take part in, any experiment or research affecting your care. If you choose not to take part, you will receive the most effective care the hospital otherwise provides.
- to be informed of realistic alternatives when Hospital care is no longer appropriate.
- to know about hospital rules that may affect you and your treatment. You have the right to know about hospital resources, such as patient representatives or ethics committees that can help you resolve problems and questions about your hospital stay. You also have the right to prompt resolution of grievances.
- to be free of physical or chemical restraint and/or seclusion as a means of coercion, convenience or retaliation.
- to receive visitors whom you designate including, but not limited to a spouse, a domestic partner (to include the same sex partner), a family member, or friend. You also have the right to withdraw such consent at any time. You have the right to know the clinical reason your visitation right may be limited or restricted. A support person may exercise this right on your behalf if you are unable to do so.
- Additionally, your family has the right of informed consent of donation of organs and tissues.

These rights can be exercised on your behalf by a designated surrogate or proxy decision maker if you lack decision-making capacity, are legally incompetent, or are a minor.